How terrorist

was trapped

by the Turks

By Michael Evans, Philip Pangalos and Andrew Finkel

atives with him. There were no

immigration formalities. Mr

Ocalan swept through diplo-

matic channels, presumably with the help of officials from

the Greek Embassy. One re-

port said he was met by the

In case of any trouble at the

Cypriot dipiomatic

airport, Mr Ocalan had a

passport in the name of Laza-

rus Mayros, a well known

iournalist and outspoken sup-

Although the Kenyan au-

thorities appeared to be in the

norance of Mr Ocalan's arriv-

al in their country, his pres-

ence in Kenya was no secret to ...

the US, nor to Israel, Mr

lan had a habit of using his

mobile phone and his conver-

sations would have then thief-

cepted by American electronic

eavesdropping satellites. Both the US and seriel fiad good reasons to help ankara in its pursuit of the terrorist chief.

pursuit of the perrorist chief.
Washington was grateful to
Turkey for bublicly confirming its continuing support for
the military oase at Incirlik to
for flights the US Air Force
following threatening noises
sein; a resident Saddam Husclose and Israel has developed
military ties with Turkey

becaumilitary ties with Turkey

commise both countries share a Amon concern over Syria. Calerted to the arrival of Mr

alan in Nairobi and the proection provided him by the

Freek Ambassador, the Turk-

sh intelligence service, MIT,

launched the secret operation

porter of the Kurdish cause.

Greek Ambassador.

THE covert operation that led

to the seizure in Nairobi of Tur-

key's most wanted man, the

PKK terrorist chief Abdullah

Ocalan. involved a complex

Despite strong denials from

the United States and Israel, it

appears that Ankara was able

to call on the services of the

American and Israeli intelli-

gence services to keep track of

Mr Ocalan's movements

across Europe and to provide positive proof that he was in

niding inside a Greek diplo-

matic compound in Nairobi,

following his arrival in Kenya

Although the full story be-

hind the plot to kidnap Mr

Ocalan was being deliberately

"muddied" yesterday by all those involved, the result was

an unquestionable success for the small team of Turkish spe-

cial forces who kidnapped the

PKK leader from under the

noses of the Kenyan authori-

ish commandos, their faces hidden behind black balacla-

vas, intercepted a convoy of cars, one of which was bearing

Mr Ocalan, on the way from

the Greek Embassy in Nairobi

- although some reports said

that it was from the personal

residence of George Costou-

las, the Greek Ambassador -

the kidnap must have begun

shortly after Mr Ocalan ar-rived in Nairobi from Milan

at 11.33am on February 2, after refuelling in Greece. There

The detailed planning for

The team of about six Turk-

ties and Greek diplomats.

on a private jet.

network of secret alliances.

Save this dog...and his man page 22

Will this marriage survive the curse of Hello?

page 19



How to raise confident children FREE BOOKS FOR SCHOOLS token page 26 Plus NEW BOOKS, FILMS and 28 pages

Israelis open fire on Kurds

Three die as consulate is stormed

By Tony Paterson in Berlin AND CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

ISRAELI security guards shot dead three Kurdish protesters and injured 16 other people after an attempt to storm Israel's consulate in Berlin yesterday.

The shoot-out began shortly after 2pm local time after the Kurds, believed to be supporters of Abdullah Ocalan, leader of the Kurdish Workers' Party (PKK), tried to storm the building. One member of the consulate staff was briefly taken hos-

Israel immediately shut all its diplomatic missions across Europe, and justified the killings as an act of "self-defence" taken in what had become a situation of dire emergency".

Kenya, the scene of Mr Ocalan's arrest on Tuesday, also indefinitely closed all its embassies and consulates. Kurd protesters, blaming Nairobi in part for Ocalan's capture by Turkey, have attacked the Kenyan embassies in Paris, Vienna and Bonn, where they took two embassy staff members hostage. The Kenyan Foreign Ministry said the Kenyan tour-ist office in Frankfurt had also been attacked.

In Berlin, the bloodiest incident of the international protests by PKK sympathisers was sparked by allegations that Mossad, the Israeli secret service, had assisted Turkey in

its capture of Mr Ocalan. Police said that Israeli security guards opened fire on the group who tried to storm the

The girl who likes

Tellytubbies...

and terrorists

Report, page 3

Turkish triumph,

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consulate, killing three men instantly. Sixteen others, including consulate staff, were injured, some seriously.

"About 20 Kurds rushed to-wards the building, toppling road signs and everything in their wake. Then nine shots rang out. Then there were another five shots and the protesters fled from the building," a

About 120 protesters were arrested outside the consulate in the suburb of Grünewald. A police spokesman said many were armed with metal bars. Several police were injured. A Kurdish spokesman in

Germany said: "It was decided to single out the Israeli consulate because the Turkish Prime Minister thanked the Israeli authorities for their help in apprehending Ocalan."

Binyamin Netanyahu, the Israeli Prime Minister, denied that his country had any role in apprehending the PKK leader, accused of a terrorist campaign that has cost 30,000 lives over 14 years, and said that a campaign of "false accusations" was being waged against Israel.

We did not co-operate with any element in Ocalan's capture ... We have made this clear and emphasise this because this is the reality and this is the truth," he said

Speaking in Tel Aviv hours after the shootings, Mr Netanyahu — who is campaigning for re-election in May under the slogan "A strong leader for a strong nation" -- said: "Our people have standing orders to prevent, with force if necessary, including by opening fire, any attempt to take hostages, and to defend themselves.

The Prime Minister said that dozens of Kurds, some brandishing hammers and clubs, broke into the consulate compound, scaled grilles over ground-floor windows, entered the building and took a woman hostage. The woman was released after German authorities negotiated with the protesters.

They tried to take a weapon from one of our security men. That was when firing broke out and the first casualties occurred," Mr Netanyahu added. "We are sorry when lives are lost, but we are committed



Abdullah Ocalan handcuffed and guarded by a member of the Turkish Special Forces on a flight from Kenya to Turkey

wherever they may be and Israeli facilities anywhere in the

Mr Netanyahu disclosed that a team of Israelis had been sent to Germany to help the police investigation. "I think it is too early to reach final conclusions," he said, "But one has to understand we are talking about a violent breakin to an Israeli mission, with all the consequences." He pledged that security at all israeli missions abroad would be tightened further, but gave

no details. A Foreign Ministry spokesman said the decision to close diplomatic missions in Europe

and send staff home would be reviewed on a day-to-day basis. Even before the attempt to storm the Berlin consulate, Israeli missions across the world had been placed on red alert in case of attempted Kurdish retaliation for the alleged

Mossad link. In Bonn, the German gov-ernment spokesman Uwe-Karsten Heye appealed for calm: "Whatever the background to this bloodshed we call on all those involved to do everything possible to help restore order.

About 50 Kurdish protesters stormed and occupied the offices of Germany's ruling Social Democratic Party in Frankfurt and took one hostage, believed to be an SDP member. Police said the Kurds ransacked offices on the third

floor of the building. Negotiations between police and PKK sympathisers were under way in an attempt to free the hostage, a police spokesman said. The wave of Kurdish violence that began on Tuesday amounted to a setback for Chancellor Gerhard Schröder's

SDP-led Government. Late last year Bonn declined to seek Mr Ocalan's extradition from Italy to stand trial in Germany on the grounds that such a move would constitute a threat

to national security. The German security servic-

ings about the threat posed by the presence of an estimated 50,000 supporters of the banned PKK in Germany, the largest single group of mili-tant Kurdish activists in Eu-

Manfred Kanther, Germany's former Conservative Interior Minister, yesterday accused the Schröder Government of cowardice. "We would have extradited Mr Ocalan. The German Government should act decisively against the violent supporters of the PKK. They should stop simply doing nothing under the pretext of being understanding,

but not for long

Keegan takes over

By JOHN GOODBODY, SPORTS NEWS CORRESPONDENT

KEVIN KEEGAN, the former European Footballer of the Year, was yesterday named as the new England team manag-

er, but only for the next four in-

In a bizarre development in the saga to find a replacement for Glenn Hoddle, Keegan has told the Football Association that he does not wish to be considered for the job on a permanent basis after this summer However, the governing body is so desperate to find a tempo rary coach that it was forced to

accept Keegan's demands. Instead of leading England towards the 2000 European championship, Keegan, regarded by many in the game as a messiah. will return to his full-time iob as chief operating officer of second-division Fulham. He will work for them over the next five months

when not on England duty. David Davies, the FA's acting chief executive, said the search had already begun for a full-time England coach to

take over from Keegan in the summer

Keegan, who won 63 caps for England and transformer the fortunes of Newcastle Un ed as manager in the 1990s 1 clore resigning two years at will have his first game in charge when England play a qualifier against Polard at Wembley on March 27.

England in limbo, p_{ige 52}



to kidnap the Kurdish leader. were four other PKK represent-Continued on page 2, col 5

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BOOKS...

BUSINESS:



Two-year ban likely on **GM** crop planting

By JILL SHERMAN AND PHILIP WEBSTER

THE Government was last night moving towards a twoyear ban on the commercial planting of genetically modified crops. After a week of fierce public

and political pressure, senior

government sources admitted that it was increasingly unlikely that ministers would feel ready to go ahead before 2001. Informed sources in the Environment Department and Agriculture Ministry admitted for the first time that this year's trials could be insuffi-cient for ministers to grant approval for commercial planting. If so, it was disclosed, they will be repeated in the spring and autumn of next year. If the

trials then prove satisfactory, planting will be allowed to begin the following year. A two-year moratorium would take the Government much closer to the position of English Nature, the countryside advisory body that wants

three-year moratorium.

Some Labour backbenchers have joined opposition parties in pressing for at least a threeyear delay. Michael Meacher, the Envi-

ronment Minister, and Jeff Rooker, the Food Minister, are understood to be strongly in agreement on the cautious line that is surfacing within the



test tube in my soup"

Government. "There are only two small scale farm trials this year. That may not be enough to get the evidence we need." one Environment Department source said. "It may be difficult to draw any firm conclusion on one year's data." He stressed that Mr Meach-

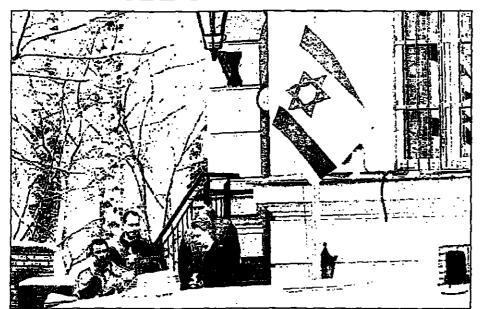
er had already told the House Lords select committee on GM crops last November that he had an agreement with the industry that there would be "at least" one year of trials.

An Agriculture Ministry source said that Mr Rooker

was now prepared to follow Meacher's lead. "We wouldn't clear anything unless we are satisfied it is safe. The date of commercial planting will be determined by pubsafety and science and it would be difficult to set a times-

Waiters' dilemma, page 10 Magnus Linklater, page 22 Ethical spotlight, page 28

KURDISH BACKLASH: REBELS ATTACKED



Police secure the entrance of the Israeli consulate in Berlin after yesterday's shooting

Ankara force storms into northern Iraq

By Michael Theodoulou in nicosia and Andrew Finkel

TURKISH troops, buoyed by the capture of Abdullah Oca-ian, the PKK leader, stormed across Turkey's mountainous southern border into Iraq in pursuit of separatist Kurdish rebels, a Turkish television station reported last night.

The cross-border offensive one of several in recent years. appeared aimed at dealing a crushing blow to the Kurdish Workers' Party (PKK), which the Turkish military hopes has been left demoralised and in disarray by its leader's

cloak-and-dagger arrest. The Turkish Army would also be keen to push rebel Kurds back from the border to prevent the possibility of infiltrators launching a spectacu-lar attack to avenge Ocalan's arrest. Up to 4,000 troops with armoured vahicles were involved, witnesser told MTV, a private Turkish, tation.

Any international criticism of the Turkish offensive will deof the Turkish offer and duration, pend on its scale and duration. A short, sharp operation that does not endanger civilians is unlikely to provide a concertualized to provide a concerturalized. unlikely to prove

ed outcry, particularly with attention in Europe diverted by violent Kurdish protests.

Washington has generally been sympathetic to Turkey's "hot pursuit" policy against what it calls "terrorists" in northern Iraq, where the Turk-

⁶ Turkey argues

that its Kurdish rebels have exploited a safe haven created

for Iraqi Kurds ?

ish Army maintains a semípermanent presence. Baghdad, which this week threatened to strike at an airbase in southern Turkey by American and British warplanes, was certain to condemn the incursion in an area

it has had little control over

since the 1991 Gulf War. "It will be just words. Saddam's powerless to do anything," one Arab envoy said.

As Kurdish demonstrators throughout Europe protest trayal of Mr Ocalan, Turks themselves feel that they have died and gone to heaven. Not only is their Public Enemy No I behind bars, but Public Enemy No 2, Theodoros Pangalos. the Greek Foreign Minister, is taking the rap.

Ankara has long accused Greece, and Mr Pangalos in particular, of trying to weaken Turkey by supporting the PKK. That Mr Ocalan was caught enjoying the hospitali-ty of the Greek Ambassador to Kenya is the hard evidence Turkey sought. Yet even more comforting is the suggestion that Greece may have colluded with Turkey in selling out

the Kurdish cause. Indeed, part of the anger displayed by anti-Turkish Kurds on the streets of European capitals in recent days stems from a realisation of how little inter-



national support they really enjoy. In the end, it was European eagerness neither to offend Turkey nor to become involved in its messy Kurdish dis-pute that forced Mr Ocalan onto the run.

Yesterday Turkey tried to drive home its advantage with the release of a video-recording of Mr Ocalan flying home and appearing to be asking for mercy and offering informa-That performance is bound further to divide the loyalties of his estimated 10.000 armed supporters now divid-

ed into small operational units'

inside Turkey and into larger camps inside Baghdad-controlled Iraq. Mr Ocalan's own brother, Osman, who, according to Turkish reports, has gone to Iran, is believed to be one of the contenders for the vacant crown. Mr Ocalan himself is reported to support another faction led by the com-

mander. Cemil Bayik. As to its incursion into northern Iraq. Ankara bristles at Western criticism, arguing that its Kurdish rebels have exploited a safe haven for Iraqi Kurds created by the United States and Britain. A six-week

Turkish offensive in 1995, involving 35,000 troops, provoked criticism from the European Union and eventually from Washington after reports of civilian casualties. It also caused major disruption for

Iraqi Kurdish refugees. That offensive, which was followed by a smaller one two months later, weakened the PKK in northern Iraq, but failed in its declared aim of crushing the rebels once and for all. Now Turkey may feel its goal is more achievable.

Leading article, page 23

West blamed for broken pledges of past

umbering about 20 million people, the Kurds claim that they are the largest ethnic group in the world without a national state of their own. And although their anger is directly largely at Turkey and Iraq, where the ma-jority live, they also blame the Western powers for undermining their fledgeling independence at the end of the First World War.

Their grievances stem from the failure of the Western powers to ratify the promise in the Treaty of Sèvres in 1920 to give the Kurds autonomy. For this they largely blame the US. President Wilson stipulated that the Kurds should have an "absolute unmolested opportunity of autonomous development".

The treaty was drawn up when the victorious allies were still contemplating the further dismemberment of the Ottoman Empire, and at a time when there was general revulsion at the recent massacres of Armenians. It was never ratified by the Turkish parliament.

Three years later, however, the Treaty of Lausanne. which ended the war between the Turks and Greeks, ignored any men tion of the Kurds. The US was not in the League of Nations. and Wilson's promises were forgotten. No separate homeland was ever established, and the Kords were incorporated into the Turkish Republic.

By then, the political circumstances were very different. Mustapha Kemal — Ataturk — had seized con-trol of Turkey and led the demoralised army to victory. The country had begun its reorientation to Europe and there was a recognition that the dismembership of Anatolia would lead to a

dangerous power vacuum. Ataturk allowed no separate identity for the many groups in Turkey, all were to be citizens of the republic. The Kurds were

The Kurds rue lost chance of a homeland, writes Michael

Turks" and all subsequent Governments have refused to recognise a separate

Binyon

Kurdish identity About 13 million now live in southeastern Turkey. Kurdish has been banned in schools and official documents and broadcasts are not allowed in the lan-guage. Kurdish dress has been suppressed and a clampdown enforced on ex-

pressions of separatism. Across the Turkish border, the British, who were the mandate authority in traq, also refused to. acknowledge a separate Kurdish identity, especially as this would threaten Britain's oil interests around Mosul. The League of Nations awarded control of the region to Iraq in 1925. Until 1991 ali Western efforts were to bolster Baghdad's control.

nort-lived rebellions by the Kurds ocby the Kurus or curred in 1931-32 and 1943-44. Iraq has seen a series of uprisings led by the veteran Mustapha Barzani. President Saddam Hussein put them down ruthlessly. culminating in the gassing

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of Halabja in 1988. The Kurds, a warrior race of mostly Sunni Muslims who long served as mercenaries, have never produced an outstanding leader to unify them. Often they have been divided by internecine strife. The most bitter example has been the fratricidal quarrel between the two main Kurdish groups struggling to control the Kurdish vens" proclaimed by the UN in northern Iraq at the called simply "Mountain end of the Gulf War.

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Greeks angered by 'betrayal' of folk hero One of the eight, Stelios Papathemelis, ac-cused the Government of being "stupid The crisis has almost certainly dealt a seri-

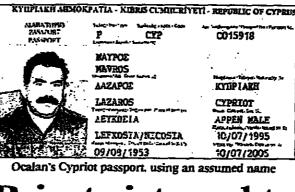
Theodor Pangalos, the Greek Foreign Minister, to resign as politicians of the right and left accused him of virtually betraying Abdullah Ocalan into the hands of the Greeks' traditional foe, the Turks. Egged on by a media eager to assign

blame for what is reported as a Greek diplomatic defeat, eight deputies of the rul-ing Panhellenic Socialist Movement (Pasok) called on Mr Pangalos to step down.

and dishonest". Yannis Haralambopoulos, a former Foreign Minister, said he believed Greece would eventually "pay a high price for this mishandling". Criticism from the right was equally in-

tense. Yannis Varvipsiotis, the deputy leader of the conservatives New Democracy Party, called Mr Pangalos's handling of the affair "childish and unacceptable". ous blow to the already waning popularity of Costas Simitis, the Prime Minister. In a statement issued from a sickbed, Mr Simitis defended his Foreign Minister's handling of the affair.

But most Greeks, who have been weaned on anti-Turkish ideology from infancy, were unwilling to listen. Many view Mr Ocalan as a romantic, Che Guevara-type folk hero.



Private jet used to capture Ocalan

Continued from page 1 A team of six Turkish special forces personnel, including a pilot and a doctor, embarked on a private Falcon 900 executive jet belonging to Cavit Caglar, a prominent Turkish businessman and a former minister. He was apparently unaware of the reason for the Government's request to hire his plane.

According to one report, the special forces team arrived at Kampala in Uganda on Saturday and awaited orders to fly on to Nairobi.

While Mr Ocalan was under the protection of the Greeks, attempts were made to find him a country in Africa prepared to offer political asylum. Mr Ocalan also used his mobile phone to speak to Kenyan officials and his lawyers. unwiningly helping to pinpoint his precise location in Nairobi. "Ocalan did not take the necessary security measures," a Greck Government

spokesman said. With the knowledge that they would have the advanrace of surprise in seizing Mr Ocalan on Kenyan soil, the Turkish special forces which have a reputation for efficiency, had every reason to hope pleted without bloodshed, provided Mr Ocalan could be persuaded to leave the protection of the Greeks voluntarily.

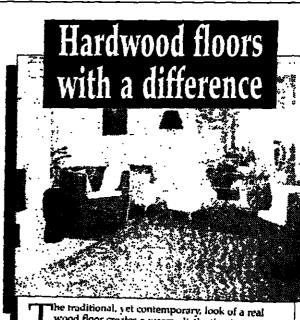
His decision to leave for the airport in the company of Kenyan security personnel and Greek officials at about 6pm on Monday evening has given rise to accusations of complicieither by the Kenyans or the Greeks.

Whatever the truth it seems that Mr Ocalan believed he was about to fly to The Netherlands and must have felt confident during the eight-mile car journey to the airport that he was in safe hands.

However, the Turkish special forces team was waiting for the convoy to arrive at their vantage point along the route and intercepted his car as it swung round a bend. In an operation lasting only a few minutes. Mr Ocalan was handcuffed and driven at speed to the waiting jet that took off for Turkey ar about 7.30pm.

Turkish television yesterday broadcast video footage of a bound Mr Ocalan being taken back to Turkey in a private jet. In the tape Mr Ocalan says: "If the truth be told I love Turkey and the Turkish nation."

MATTHEW PARRIS IS ON PAGE 12



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KURDISH BACKLASH: SCHOOLGIRL'S AGONY





Nejla Kanteper - who is in hospital recovering from burns - dressed for a wedding outside her London home, where she immersed herself in Kurdish politics, decorating her bedroom with photographs of Kurdish activists

Terrorists and Teletubbies

Stephen Farrell finds conflicting images of playtime and propaganda in

the life of Nejla Kanteper, the London schoolgirl whose self-immolation

propelled her to the forefront of the Kurdish movement in Britain

ejla Kanteper, the 14-year-old school-girl who is critically ill after setting fire to herself during a Kurdish protest in London on Tuesday, is freely acknowledged by fellow pupils and former teachers to be a ringleader among Kurdish pupils at White Hart Lane secondary school.

Raised on a steady diet of Kurdish separatist literature and satellite television beamed into the living room of her three-storey council house in Wood Green, north London. her bedroom is adorned with Teletubbies and photographs of Kurdish activists.

Although in her GCSE year and surrounded by the usual temptations that Western sociery offers young teenagers, she Even her best friends, invariably Kurds, confirm that there is no boyfriend and the only

party in her life is the PKK. Nejla, who was born in Cy-prus, arrived in Britain in 1903. Katriye Kanteper, her mother, speaks no English but like her partner, Suley-man Coskun, is invariably courteous, barely holding back her tears as she offers

tea, coffee and cigarettes. Their living-room is domi-nated by gilt-framed pictures of Abdullah Ocalan, the PKK leader, and Mr Coskun's II children by two wives. In the background a stream of relatives monitors constant broadcasts of folk music and worldwide protests on Med Tv, the Kurdish satellite channel.

Speaking through Nejla's half-brother. Engin, 14, her father said he was shocked but not surprised to learn what his daughter had done. He himself took part in a seven-day hunger strike at the local Kurdish Workers Association community centre in November

It is very shocking. No father wants his daughter to burn herself, but every time she watched television seeing the Turks killing little children she got very angry," he said. "She decided what to do. No one forced her."

He told how he visited her in hospital, where she is recov-ering from burns to her back, right arm, chin and neck.

right. She was not crying. She said she did this for her father, her family and all the Kurdish people." he said. "Nejla used to read newspa-pers and books from the age of

eight. She used to watch the Kurdish people burning themselves on television ... and she cried, but she never said she would do something like this." Asked why Kurdish protest-

ers choose this form of protest. he shrugs and says: "The Americans and English are strong but they do not help us. No one does. Kurds cannot do anything on their own, so that is why they burn themselves. because they feel they cannot do anything else."

station based in London.

leader, at lam on Tuesday. Since then, it has expanded

its usual 18-hour broadcast to

Kenya police with Greek co-

operation had arrested Ab-

dullah Ocalan ... that is the

news we gave.
"We give news the Kurdish

Kanteper, flew to Britain with eight-year-old Nejla on Janu-ary 23, 1993. Mr Coskun followed his family to Britain 21 days later,

Mr Coskun was born into a

farming family in Mus, east-ern Turkey, in 1953, and left

for Cyprus in 1976 after, he

claims, suffering beatings and

oppression under the Turkish

Cyprus with four children

while his second partner. Mrs

His first wife remained in

claiming asylum and citing his parmer and children as dependants. When this was refused. Mrs Kanteper lodged an asylum claim in turn, citing him as a dependant.

l en people now live in the house, including seven children, all carrying papers gran-ting temporary admission until August 3. when they must report to Heathrow to learn if

they have been granted leave

to enter Britain permanently. They stayed with a relative for a month and were then granted council housing, moving to their current home four years

Mr Coskun does not work. indeed he is banned from doing so under the terms of the family's asylum claim, but confirms that although he does not receive benefit the rest of his family do. and that their E70 a week rent is paid by Haringey Council.

"I go to the meetings and I support Ocalan. The Turks have burnt villages and killed 30,000 people. They kill their own children and blame the Kurds," he said.

He does not know what subjects Neila studies at school, saying she was more interested in singing and working at

community centres. Nejla's riny bedroom, which she shares with her 12-yearold sister, Gulsen, contains a strange mixture of the childish and the propagandist. Beside photographs of Agit. a Kurdish guernilla and martyt holding a gun, are baskets of one-eared teddy bears, Teletubbies and rabbits. On the wall facing the two

bunk beds are the red, yellow and green colours of her Kurdish homeland above single red roses laid beneath photographs of other Kurdish he-

Christina Daubney, her head teacher, confirmed yester-day that Nejla, although a "lively popular girl" was con-cerned about Kurdish issues at the school.

"I am aware that she feels deeply about matters which concern her, her friends and

In 1996, its headquarters in

Now the broadcaster is on

Mr Tabak agreed that impartiality was a problem.
"We broadcast from a Kurd-

ish viewpoint: we don't have

the intention to carry the

Turkish viewpoint on our

channel." he said. "It (imparti-

alityl is so difficult for us and

4. transponder no 117, freq 10.853MhZ, 13deg east, hori-

zontal polarisation.

her family, but I am shocked that she should injure herself." Ms Daubney said.

One close schoolfriend said that Nejla was "not much into school", only hung around fellow Kurds and was intolerant of those less dedicated to the cause than her, bragging to friends that her sister had gone to Germany to train to fight the Turks, a claim dismissed by her family as schoolgirl bravado.

"I knew that she would go to the protest, she always goes to this kind of stuff, but I never knew she would do something like this," the schoolfriend

"She's really into the PKK. she has been brought up like that since she was five. She wanted to go and fight but I said 'No, if you go you will end up dead'.'

former and education experts in the borough, said that the school was one of two in Haringey where Turks and Kurdish pupils formed the largest ethnic

group.
This, they pointed out, made divisions and tensions inevitable, not just between Turks and Kurds but between the various Kurdish factions.

The PKK is but one group. and there are many political agendas within the Kurdish community." one observer

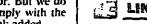
'They have a strong sense of identity and a strong sense of community and mutual support. This spills over into

school. "Any issue involving one of the Kurdish children will immediately attract multitudes of the others, all claiming to be cousins, brothers or sisters. It does not make for an easy management of schools."

j i links

htip://www.tarkishforum. **m/index.html ---** Anti-PKK http://www.med-tv.be/med/ -- Kurdish Statellite TV site **http://www.snfa.gr --** Greek

for the regulator. But we do our best to comply with the laws." Mr Tabak added. Med Tv presents its news in four languages and three Kurdish dialects. The station can be accessed via Hotbird



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Ethnic TV station falls foul of the regulator

24 hours, with regular news updates. But any suggestion Suleyman Coskun, father of Nejla Kanteper, who set fire to herself, seen at the family home in North London that it may have incited or people need about themorganised Kurdish protests in the wake of the arrest are denied by Hikmet Tabak, the Med Tv founder and managing director.

We received a call that

> Med Tv. Let's not underestimate them; they have a huge influence on the people." Med Tv is also very influen-

tial. Enter a Kurdish home or selves; we try to feed them as café almost anywhere in Britain, continental Europe, the much information as we can. We are not a political party Middle East, North Africa and we do not give instruc-tions." Mr Tabak said. and the former Soviet Union and the television set will The PKK does not need more than likely be tuned to Med Tv.

Based in London with production studios in Brussels, Med Tv is the only Kurdish-

language satellite television station in the world, it airs a mix of cultural, educational, entertainment and religious programmes and news and current affairs output. Although some complain

has been the station's news

and current affairs coverage that has invited the watchdog's wrath. In January last year it was fined £90.000 by the ITC for three breaches of impartiality requirements in its news and current affairs.

to the Independent Televi-Ten months later the broadsion Commission (TTC) about caster was warned formally Med Tv's very existence, it

by the ITC that it would lose its licence if it did not im-

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Deaths sour mood at embassy siege

THE police superintendent had hardly finished speaking of his optimism for a quick resolution to the occupation of the Greek Embassy when news of Kurdish deaths in Berlin began filtering through. Protest-ers stopped dancing, their drum fell silent and the relaxed mood in West London

evaporated. The crowd, which had dwin-dled to fewer than 100 yesterday morning, grew to more than 500 by evening as extra demonstrators arrived by the coach-load from Kurdish communities of North London.

Once again, police began to talk of the need for patience. Crude tents, made from blue plastic sheets, were set up by demonstrators, in readiness for another cold night. From inside the embassy in Holland Park, where about 50 protesters are holding a Greek clerk hostage, came the announcement that a hunger strike was

beginning.
The arrival of Suleyman
Coskun. 45, the father of Nejla Kanteper, the schoolgirl who set fire to herself the previous day, gave extra impetus. He said he was proud of his daughter and supported the occupiers' right to continue their

"I went to hospital and said

Young demonstrators say they are

willing to burn in the cause of freedom, Adrian Lee reports

Why have you done this. She said: "Dad, we are burning every day. Burning yourself is our way of protesting because

we have no power." Her father said he had been due to visit his daughter in hospital again at 2pm but delayed so that he could support the demonstration outside the embassy. According to her family, she tried to exchange her watch for petrol from a garage before setting fire to herself.

Among those arriving yesterday afternoon was a group from the Halkevi kurdish community centre in Stoke Newington, North London, where Ms Kanteper sings in a folk band. Her protest won admiration from groups of teenage girls who joined the demonstration, often leading the

chanting. Devrin Incedal, 19. said: "I am prepared to do the same:

She spent all Tuesday night on the pavement outside the embassy, "It was cold but that does not matter to us. All that matters is our leader's safety."

She predicted that the occupation could still end in vio-

"If it needs to be done, they will burn themselves like Nejla. They have no fear about that - young or old, they will do it."

Another girl, aged 14, who refused to give her name, said her father and uncle were inside the embassy. Between chanting and flag-waving she said: "Nejla was very brave. she has guts. What she did was not extreme; she has shown that we are willing to die. I would do it myself for my people's future."

Extra police were brought in yesterday to prevent a repeat of Tuesday's skirmishes which culminated in a main road being closed. A dozen police vans and two rows of barriers blocked the demonstrators' route to the embassy, which is surrounded by armed officers.

At 6.45pm last night police officers leapt over barriers when a man appeared to attempt to set light to himself. The demonstrator was pushed

ers. An ambulance was called but the man did not appear to be injured.

The strengthening of the crowd's resolve was fuelled by false rumours that 14 had died in Berlin. Earlier. community aders had said that they be lieved the occupation could have been over by yesterday and that only wrangling over the terms of their surrender was delaying its conclusion.

Babis Patsouris, a Greek Embassy clerk in his fifties who is being held by the demonstrators, was said by police to be in good spirits and in no

danger. in the early hours of yester day Lord Rea, a Kurdish sympathiser, mediated between po-lice and the occupiers, raising hopes of a resolution. Later Tony Benn, the Labour MP, arrived at the scene and dictated a letter to Robin Cook, the For-

eign Secretary.

Mr Benn gave a warning that the demonstrations in London and elsewhere could end in bloodshed and urged the British Government to seek assurances from Turkey about the trial and treatment of Abdullah Ocalan, the PKK leader whose arrest by Turkey triggered the protests.

BRITAIN'S BIGGEST ELECTRICAL STORES



Tony Benn, the Labour MP, lends his support to protesters outside the Greek Embassy in west London yesterday

Displaced Kurds dream of home

A COMPLEX and uneasy relationship exists between the Turkish and Kurdish communities of North London, near the Kanteper home.

The most visible sign of their presence is the 150 shops and businesses lining Green Lane, the main road through Haringey where more than 12,000 Kurds are based, most seeking asylum.

Near a Bank of Cyprus branch are numerous restaurants, cafés and travel agents. Tucked in behind a railway line, in a narrow cul de sac, is the Kurdistan Workers' Association community centre, with the distinctive red, yellow and green Kurdish colours above the entrance.

Each day, scores of men sit reading Turkish-language newspapers such as Ozgur Politika. Watching the ubiquitous satellite television channel in the corner opposite a bar selling only soft drinks, they sit beneath a giant mural of Abdullah Ocalan leading his people through pastoral meadows with the hills of their

homeland in the background.

Diyari Kurdi, 37. an Iraqiborn Kurd and chairman of the Kurdish Community Asso-ciation, proudly tells of how the centre teaches 65 students. including Nejla's father, English and computing. But he accuses Turks of trying to burn down the centre last August.

"Every single Kurd I speak to says they appreciate what Nejla did, but many feel that if you want to die you should not die alone. I do not think that Kurdish people should carry out terrorist attacks, but I am appealing to the European governments to carry out urgent action or it will be too late. People cannot be controlled any more."

However, the author and broadcaster Sheri Laizer, believes talk of a Turkish/Kurdish division is too simplistic and says left-wing Turks supporting the democracy movement in their country form alliances with some Kurdish groups. It is the differences between right-wing Turks in nearby Newington Green and the Kurds that are the most dangerous, she claims.

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In debt to Ali, * champion of Third World

IN HIS glory days Muhammad Ali, the much adored boxer once known as Cassius Clay, regularly used his Lon-don visits to stock up on new tricks at a magicians' shop in

The three-time heavyweight champion of the world, who was a practised prestidigitator oustide the ring as well as in, has less interest in magic these days, but it has by no means

Resterday it helped him to transform Brixton bus queues into a chanting mob of fans.

Ali, a silent, shambling, shaking figure now that he is stricken with Parkinson's dis-ease, is nonetheless the International Ambassador of the Jubilee 2000 movement, a campaign to persuade western governments to mark the millennium by cancelling the debts of impoverished Third World na-

In that role he was given a hero's welcome in Brixton, where he spent 45 minutes in

the Lambeth Refugee Centre, local headquarters for the Jubilee 2000 campaign. When Ali appeared on the

centre steps he was greeted with ardent cheers and chants of "Ali, Ali, Ali". The jumper beneath his overcoat was as bright as the banners on the walls above him. Scarcely able to walk, and

with a fixed expression as if



Glory days: a young Muhammad Ali

every slow movement required intense concentration, he lifted his arm in a halfraised African salute. Those nearest him in the crowd went

One woman, Juliet Blake, 35, from Lambeth, managed to squeeze under a policeman's arm to hug and kiss her idol, who looked at her with an expression of wonderment.

Hands trembling, reached in his pocket and slowly drew forth a sheaf of printed leafets publicising Islam. Care-fully he placed them one by one into eagerly straining hands, before inching forward to be greeted and photographed again.

The 25 steps from the centre to his waiting car, an open-topped 1932 4.2 litre Bentley. took 25 minutes. One man waved a single placard. It said: "Ali — Still the Greatest." When he reached the car and was helped in, the crowd

struck up again the chant of "Ali, Ali, Ali". Once in the car

he raised his face, the cheeks just as urgently as in the good now swollen, soft and shiny, old days. like well-pummelled boxing

gloves, and the tiniest, gentiest, most tentative suggestion of a smile crossed his face. He lifted one hand, his index finger shaking tremulously, and then collapsed into the back seat as if the victim of one of his own right-crosses. Photographers surrounding the car squabbled for space I will remember this day for the rest of my life."

Shaking the hand that shook the world: a young girl meets Ali, in London to campaign on behalf of Jubilee 2000

The procession - police van, Bentley with Ali now standing again, his trembling finger waving gently to the crowd, six mounted police and a small host of jogging fans in pursuit — went off down the High Street, round St Matthew's church, past the waving bus queues and back. Alex Marshall, 50, from Brixton, boasted delightedly: "I shook the hand that shook the world.

James Burke, 28, said: "He has to be just the greatest sports personality of all time. It is great to see him in Brixton and an honour to shake his hand." The Jubilee 2000 leaflets Ali handed out read: "More than 30 years ago, Mu-

chains of racism and slavery. Today he came to Brixton to help black people of the world shake off the chains of debt bondage. Africa spends twice as much on debt payments as health care. Debt bondage is the modern form of slavery."

Africa, says the campaign, owes western countries £138 billion — , £231 for every man, woman and child on the

Reprieve likely for OUP poetry

By Dalya Alberge ARTS CORRESPONDENT

OXFORD University Press yesterday appeared to bow to the massive criticism of its deci-sion to axe its entire modern poetry list.

The academic publishing-house said that "the Press and the English Faculty are look-ing for a new way by which

contemporary poetry can continue to be published.

OUP had argued that it could not afford to continue publishing books that barely broke even and which did not fit in with its non-fiction lists. A spokeswoman would not agree that the company was backtracking but said the statement was open to interpreta-

Novelists and professors were among many who had expressed anger that poets such as Peter Porter and D.J. En-right had been dropped.

Jon Stallworthy, the Oxford professor of English literature and editor of the Oxford Book of War Poetry, accused the Press of "an act of vandalism".

Yesterday, he said: "The faculty would certainly welcome this development and would do everything it can to help the OUP make an even greater success of its poetry."

friend's eye shut

A STUDENT who superglued a sleeping friend's eye shut at a party for a joke was fined L350 yesterday.

Dean Allan, 22, admitted the offence that left Grant Mc-Gregor, 18, temporarily blind in one eye but said that he could not remember the prank because he was drunk.

An optician had to rip Mr McGregor's eyelid from his cheek, Perth Sheriff Court was told. His mother, Joyce, said: "It was like the Phantom of the

Opera's mask. It was really fortuitous that there wasn't any damage to the eye."

Allan, a mechanical engineering student at Oxford College of Further Education, had been drinking to celebrate the end of his exams before her arrived at the party in Blairgow-rie. Perthshire, last August.

"I was drunk. I regret it and I didn't mean him any harm." he said.

He was also ordered to pay £150 compensation.

Student glued his | Why you can't kill a roach | Cheese: spread the word

By Nigel Hawkes, science editor

THE cockroach is nature's champion acrobat, able to twist and turn up to 25 times a second, scientists have found. This remarkable agility and speed helps to explain why it is so difficult to kill.

"If the cockroach were not such a bad house guest, it would no doubt receive the admiration it rically deserves," Dr Jeff Camhi, of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, said.

Using a high-speed camera, Mr Camhi and his team filmed the creatures, running at speeds of up to three feet a second, in a circular enclosure

divided by a wall. They kept a fixed distance from the wall, apparently by running the tip of their long antennae along it, according to a report in New Scientist.

The team found that the roaches kept the same distance from a wall that zig-zagged repeatedly, making them turn up to 25 times a second.

Camhi said. Cockroaches are nocturnal, so it is unlikely they were using their eyes. To prove it Dr Camhi blindfolded them with blobs of wax. It made no difference.

Immobilising the base of their antennae with glue also had no effect but removing the tips of the antennae caused them to bump into the wall. The conclusion is that the roaches navigate by running the tip of their antennae

them so hard to kill, suggests that they must have highly efficient nervous systems.

By Elizabeth Jüdge

GENERAL de Gaulle once complained of the difficulties cheeses to the more traditional Blue Stilton and mild traditional Cheddar. Three types of Gloucester are featured, inof governing a country so di-verse that it produced 246 dif-ferent cheeses. Yesterday the cluding the laboriously named scale of the task awaiting Tony Double Gloucester with Full Blair was made clear when Fat Soft Cheese and Onions. more than 400 British cheeses Gordon Summerfield, Presiwere given pride of place. dent of the Dairy Industry Fed-Lord Donoughue, Minister eration, said: "One of the objec-

> UK cheese." The poster is being printed in French, Italian, German and Spanish and will be dis

tributed to cheese manufacturers and exporters as well as trade attaches in British embassies abroad.

Lord Donoughue has been promoting British cheese for the past two years in a series of seminars. He said: "The British cheese seminar last year was the first step in identifying and I have every confidence that this is going to continue.

Leading article, page 23



along the wall and sensing the for Farming and the Food Intives of the poster is to ensure a way forward in a more suc-"We know of no other anichanging bend in the andustry, unveiled a poster, the that retailers and consumers cessful marketing of British tennae tips. The lightning reactions of the cockroach, which makes mal capable of such a high frefirst in a series of initiatives deabroad fully appreciate the cheese. Our cheese exports are quency of body-turning," Dr signed to sell the nation's 400, sheer diversity and quality of showing an upwards trend often maligned, cheeses abroad. Those on the poster

range from the little known

Cornish Yarg and Ticklemore

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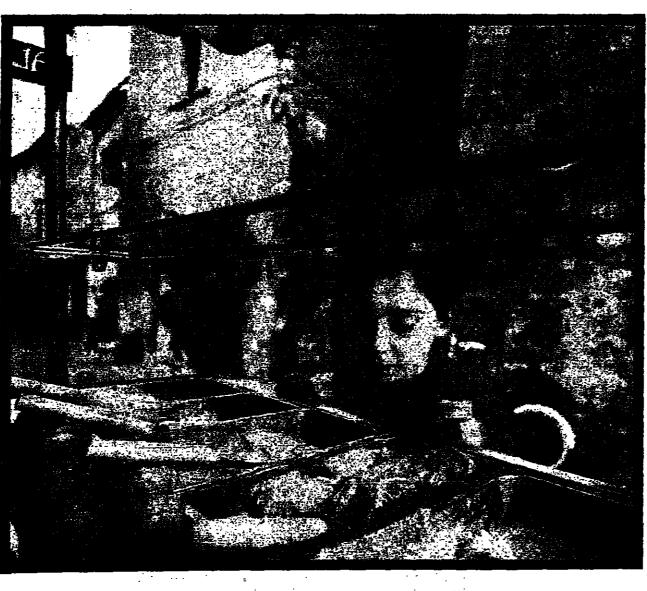
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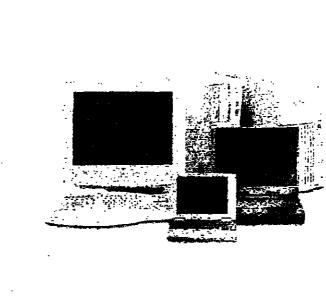
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How can we gamble with the future of children this way?

With 3.3 million existing in families with less than half the average national income, children are now the largest group caught in the poverty trap.

So where does the buck stop?

With government? Or with each and every one of us?

The Children's Society believes we all have a responsibility to the next generation.

And with your help, we can do something to redress the balance between the 'haves' and the 'have nots'.

When the disadvantaged become the disappeared

Every year thousands of children fall through the net.

In the local areas, where these children are concentrated, more than 25% of them will begin life as underweight babies, they have a 30% higher mortality rate and they are twice as likely to die in childhood accidents.

These same children are disadvantaged in education. They can become disruptive in class. Unable to cope, schools exclude them in their thousands-150,000 exclusions in a single year. The majority are children from poorer homes.

Without a decent start in life, many young people never catch up.

Truancy in these deprived districts is currently running at four times the national average.

While one in four pupils at secondary schools near rundown housing estates, leave at sixteen without a single GCSE, five times the national average.

The vast majority of underage pregnancies can be traced back to the same areas.

4,700 girls of school age fell pregnant in 1998 - more than any other country in Europe.

Uneducated, unhappy young people will buck the system when they feel abandoned by it.

Many turn to crime. And pay the price.

Britain locked up 11,000 teenagers in1998. That's a 40% increase in just five years – a depressing European record.

A staggering 43,000 children run away each year.

Life on the streets can be desperate and dangerous, with the real risk of being caught up with drugs and prostitution, simply to survive.



Beating the odds

Many of the problems children face are complex and interlinked.

The way we see it, they demand an holistic approach.

There is no quick fix. But there is progress to be proud of. Last year The Children's Society helped nearly 40,000 children, directly.

We are the only national charity working with youngsters on remand in prison.

We were the first to open a refuge for those at risk on the streets, the first to develop programmes in primary schools to proactively prevent exclusions and the first to introduce family centres.

Whilst our resources are modest, the impact we make on children's lives is not.

Helping them realise their full potential, enables them to act as catalysts for change within their own neighbourhood.

The Children's Society is their advocate, advisor, friend.

44 When Mum left we stayed with Bad. He couldn't get work so they took our home. Social Services put us in one of them hed and breakfast places. Dad and my brother were upstairs, I was on another floor. It was horrible. The guy in the next room started rape me. They were going to put me and my brother in care. It was the people at The Children's Society that stopped it. They talked to me lots about what happened. And they helped us get a flat. Life savers, that's what Dad calls them. 77

Karen aged 14

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it shouldn't be a lottery.

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Galleries agree to time-share

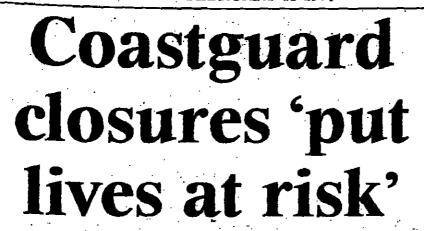
By Dalya Alberge

a classic

TWO leading art galleries have pooled resources to acquire à Surrealist masterpiece for £2.1 million. The Tale Gal-lery and Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art announced yesterday that they will share Head of a Catalan Peasant by Joan Miro.

It is the first joint purchase by the two national collections of modern art. The National Galleries of Scotland and the V&A proved such an arrangement could work when they bought Canova's Three Graces for £7.6 million in 1994. The Miro will be in Edinburgh until spring 2000, then go to the new Tate Gallery of Modern Art on the South Bank. It has been sold by the estate of Sir Roland Penrose, a pioneer col-lector of Surrealist art who

Miró (1893-1983) painted the work in 1925, soon after the Surrealist movement was established. The Tate described it yesterday as "one of the most celebrated of all Surreal-



MPs urged ministers yester-day to halt the closure of several coastguard stations planned as part of an overhaul of the

The Environment Transport and Regional Affairs Se-lect Committee said that lives could be put at risk by the move. The MPs argued that closing four of the current 21 coastguard stations would lead to a "catastrophic" loss of local knowledge, with a "very

serious impact" on the per-formance of the service.

The Maritime and Coast-guard Agency believes that new digital communication technology will compensate for the closures, which are designed to create greater effectiveness and efficiency.

Under existing plans, the coastguard rescue co-ordina-



Coastguards responded

tion centres at Oban, Argyllshire, and Pentland in Orkney will be closed by the end of 2000, those in the Tyne-Tees area and Liverpool by the end of 2001 and the stations at Portland, Dorset, and the Solent will be relocated and merged by the end of 2003. The report said: "We are con-

cerned that the closure programme, by requiring watch officers to cover more lengthy stretches of coastline, threatens to dilute local knowledge to such an extent that its value will be reduced, with a potentially very serious impact on the performance of the coastguard service." The MPs said that the closure programme would save only £500,000, stopping the changes would be

They concluded: Therefore we recommend that all 21 maritime rescue co-ordination centres and sub-centres be retained and that new communications technology is installed in all of them. We are extremely worried about the closure programme, with its attendant risks that watch officers in the stations that remain might be overloaded with work, particularly in the event of a major incident, that threatened stations might be blighted, and about the effect of the programme on staff."

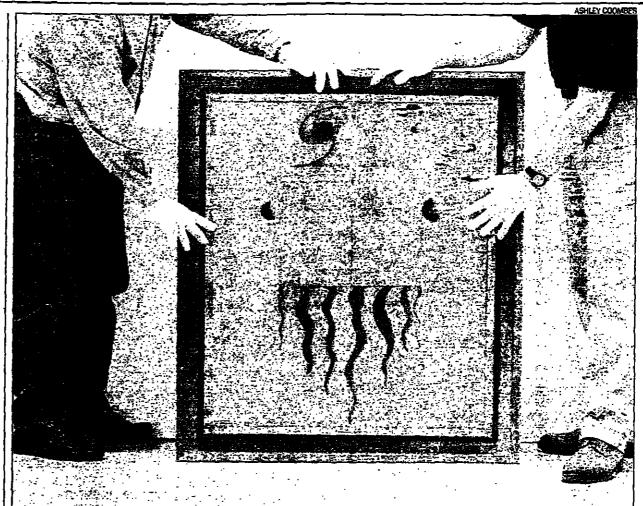
The MPs criticised the Maritime and Coastguard Agency for not consulting more widely

demanded that the newly formed body should be separated back into the Coastguard Agency and Marine

Safety Agency.

The report showed that coastguards were involved in 5.563 incidents in 1987; that had more than doubled to 11,667 incidents in 1997.

Ray Michie, Liberal Democrat MP for Argyll and Bute. said: "Surely even this Government is not so arrogant that it can ignore a committee dominated by its own backbenchers. The cost-driven decision to close these stations threatens not only quality jobs but ma-rine safety." Jim Wallace, Lib-eral Democrat MP for Orkney and Sheiland, said: "I shall be calling on John Prescott to admit with grace that the Government got it wrong."



Joan Mirô's Head of a Catalan Peasant at the Edinburgh gallery yesterday, where it will stay until spring 2000

to 11.667 incidents in 1997 about the changes. They also Army 'must keep true to its aim'

By Michael Evans, defence editor

BRITAIN must retain a firstclass combat capability if its forces are to play an increasing role in operations in the 21st century, General Sir Rog-

er Wheeler said yesterday. The warning from Sir Rog-er, Chief of the General Staff, 8,000 troops for a possible peace mission in Kosovo. while maintaining 5,000 in Bosnia-Herzegovina 15,000 in Northern Ireland. Under the strategic defence review the Army succeeded in making its case for a service based on two deployable divisions, capable of taking on two

operations simultaneously: Yesterday, at the Royal Unit-ed Services Institute for Defence Studies in London, Sir

Roger said that young people joining the Army had to accept it was an organisation "geared to war fighting". His overriding aim was to maintain that capability. "We must not lose sight of this imperative there are no prizes for second

In the next century the Army must be ready at short notice to undertake any tasks required of it, from civil aid to combat. He indicated that there was a long way to go before the British force in Bosnia, now in its seventh year. could be recalled. Britain's status meant that it would always be asked to contribute troops for peace missions.

Leading article, page 23

"Having the right information - immediately - can really make a difference. Sometimes I don't have time even to make a call. In cases like these I can still get vital information from my hospital pharmaceutical information about dosages and contraindications, for example. I use the Nokia Communicator to connect to the hospital's database over the Internet. For me, technology isn't valuable in itself. It's simply a way for me to serve my patients better."

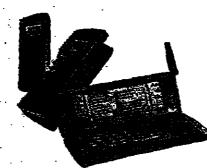


Dr. Luigi Radice "Sometimes I need the facts at once."

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Expert wants trade in live body parts

Russell Jenkins on the professor who wants surgeons to take organs without asking relatives

AN EXPERT on medical ethics suggested yesterday that people should be able to trade their body parts to cut down waiting lists of people needing life-saving transplants.

John Harris, an international authority on bio-ethics, said that a commercial market in live organs could be run ethically under strict conditions. A single purchaser, such as the NHS, could ensure there was no exploitation of poorer countries or illicit trade across continents and that the organs were distributed according to medical need.

Professor Harris, a former member of the British Medical Association's ethics committee. also suggests that bodies should become public property on death, allowing surgeons to harvest usable organs without going through the traumatic process of asking grieving relatives for consent.

Society has traditionally given too much weight to the rights of the dead and their relatives and too little to the needs of the desperately ill, says Professor Harris, 53, the Sir David Alliance Professor of Bioethics at Manchester

die needlessly as waiting lists for transplant surgery grow in-exorably in this country and around the world, and as health services struggle; to keep up with medical advanc-es and patients' expectations. In the UK the latest statistics show there are 5,349 people

waiting for organ donors, the vast majority — 4,584 — for kidneys. Last year the total was slightly lower at 5,175. Professor Harris, based at the university's Institute for Medicine, Law and Bio-ethics, will tell an international conference on ethical issues involved in transplant surgery that some 1,000 will die while

on the waiting list. The keynote speaker at the conference in Manchester this weekend will suggest to transplant surgeons, lawyers. philosophers and religious leaders that it is time to adopt more radical solutions to the growing global crisis.

A limited, ethical market in live organs is feasible if it is set up within manageable geopolitical systems, such as the United Kingdom or the European Union, he believes.

A single purchaser, such as the NHS, appointed to buy the



Professor Harris: wants more radical solutions

organs and distribute them according to medical need would ensure that the rich could not go to Harley Street for kidneys taken from people on the backstreets of Bombay, he says.

The use of live donors is long established, said Professor Harris, who points out that many kidney transplants carried out in Norway involve organs donated by volunteers. He said: "I suspect that the

reality is we are not ready for this now. But the point of recommending it now is to encourage debate and to point out there are good ethical reasons for these schemes.

"I do not believe there are powerful ethical arguments against them. People should

'Am I prepared to go on seeing people die, rather than rethink these issues?" "

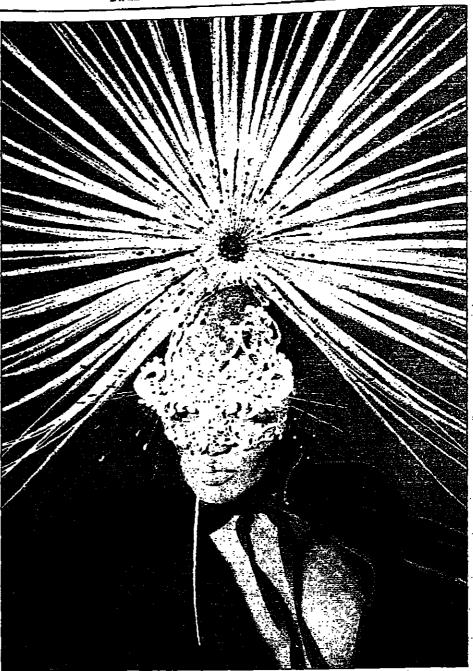
The BMA's ethics committee has discussed relaxing the rules governing organ removal. An expert study into all aspects of organ transplantation is to report to the Health Secretary, Frank Dobson, later this

The Department of Health is launching an organ donor campaign next week aimed at the Asian community. But Professor Harris says that much work to date to counter the shortage of donors has been "pussyfooting" around the

He suggests that corpses should become the property of the state so that they can be harvested automatically for organs. Surgeons would no longer have to disturb grieving rel-atives to ask permission to use recoverable organs.

The seizure of the bodies would have much the same legal weight as that given to post-mortem examinations.

Professor Harris said: "Post mortem examinations can be ordered in the public interest. If there is a public interest in finding out the cause of death. how much greater is the public interest in saving the life of a citizen at risk?" Such a system could allow for those with



Grace Jones models a Philip Treacy fantail of silver peacock feathers in New York

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Hat-tricks by Treacy and the grace of Jones

FROM LISA ARMSTRONG, FASHION EDITOR, IN NEW YORK

GRACE JONES is a pretty for- less; breathtakingly so. But midable sight at most moments, storming down a catwalk in 6in stilettos, a 2ft metal cone on her head.

She does, however, look good in a Philip Treacy hat, and therein lies a dilemma. For if Jones's chief claim to fame these days is her ability to carry off with panache an orange felt helmet with what looked like drunken tufts of coral whipping round her face, Treacy's is increasingly resting on shows that feature technically brilliant millinery with no real place to go other

than a camp icon's closet. The collection he showed on Tuesday night in New York's Public Library highlighted some extraordinary creations; a snakeskin saucer with a matching bustier dress, a purple ovoid that slotted over the face rather as a giant molluse might in a drug-in-duced fantasy, an exquisite fantail of silver peacock feathers that sat on the head like a couture mohican, and those metallic discs that looked like weapons of mass destruction - and not simply on the credit card - were technically flaw-

who would wear them? If Philip Treacy represents one (minority) school of New York fashion week, Ralph

Lauren emphatically weighs in for the other. "I wanted to address the way women are going to want to dress in the millennium," he said after the show. Cue acres of unlined. double-face cashmere felt, worked into luxurious working clothes - updated with hoods, funnel necks and an absence of buttons. Not so much Grace Jones as Princess Grace. What gave them catwalk punch were the colours: head-to-toe periwinkle, yellow, leaf green, crimson, lav-

ender and pumpkin. Judging by what the audience was decked out in this is resolutely not what millennial woman will be wearing. She will take it (all) in the monochrome versions that this canniest of designers also paraded. In his dreams, Lauren may wish his customers would go wild and wear something approximating to colour, but in the meantime he will keep on showing the black. Hey, this is New York.

Maritime Museum in new wave of fashion

By MARK HENDERSON

FROM bell bottoms to deck shoes, the influence of Britain's naval heritage on fashion is to be celebrated at the National Maritime Museum.

New work with a seafaring style by designers such as Vivi-enne Westwood will stand alongside the uniform that Nelson wore at the Battle of Trafalgar in the "Rank and Style" gallery, which opens on March 31 as part of the museum's £20 million lottery-fund-

ed redevelopment. The gallery will also explore the development of protective clothing at sea. On show will be the outfit that helped to keep Tony Bullimore alive for four days in the hull of his capsized catama-ran in the Southern Ocean. Displays will chart the history of nautical clothing and its sway over trends on dry land.

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Methodists praise God the Mother

THE Methodist Church became the first British church prayer book with God addressed as a woman. The church, which has about a million regular worshippers, has included a thanksgiving in one of its new Communion services which begins: "God our Father and our Mother."

A new worship book to succeed the 1975 service book uses "inclusive" language wherever possible for God and for the congregation. There is frequent use of "she/he" and "sisters and brothers in Christ when referring to the wor-

In response to the line: "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God", the congregation says: "It is right to give our thanks and praise" instead of "It is right to give him thanks and

The service does contain many references to God as father and Jesus Christ is kept exclusively male throughout. But various prayers empha-sise the feminine side of God's nature, addressing the "God of tenderness and compassion" or "gentle God". The Church of England,

turns the pages

of a service

book that breaks new ground in British religion

which is revising its liturgy for the new millennium, has also ooted for inclusive language where possible but has not yet gone so far as to describe God

The Rev John Lampard, a member of the 15-strong Methodist liturgical committee, said: "God is neither male nor female. Way back in Christian tradition. God has been referred to as mother. There is a variety of images of God in the Bible as male and female.

We wanted to reflect this." The Rev Neil Dixon, secre-tary of the Methodist faith and order committee, said of the innovation: "For many people it will be quite difficult to take on board immediately." But there was a theological principle at

bishops' Council and a former

BBC marketing manager.
The decision to set up the

programme was made at this

week's meeting of the council.

The council was addressed by

Professor John Adair, a nation-

al leadership adviser, who

holds the world's first chair in

leadership at Exeter Universi-ty and who was the first lay

person to preach at St Paul's

Ms Ozanne said: "We under-

stand the need of getting to

know, hear and listen to the

needs, perceptions and desires

of our parishioners. There is a

"It would be good to pull

that together into a national

picture of what goes on in Eng-

land. Over the next two

months we will be holding fo-

cus groups and listening to

what the people in the parish-

es have to say to us about their

perceptions of the Church."

parish level.

gion that human beings are made in the image of God. Male and female he created them. Although God himself, God herself, is without gen-der, both the male and female must help us to understand God's nature.

The service book was unveiled at Wesley's Chapel in the City of London yesterday. The prayer of thanksgiving comes in one of nine new services of Holy Communion.

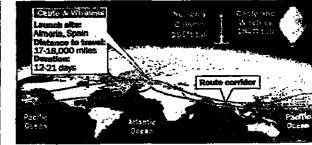
There are four alternative

baptism services and a marriage services that allows for the bride to be "presented for marriage" by a friend or relative instead of "given away". There are funeral services for the death of a child and for a stillborn child, a healing service, an Easter vigil, a service for the burial of ashes and an office of commendation for use on first hearing of a death.

Methodist liturgists have been developing the 600-page book since 1990. Although ministers are not bound to use it and can continue with the old version or use none at all. more than 160,000 copies have already been ordered from the Methodist Publishing House.



Two workmen pause to watch the Cable and Wireless balloon leave Spain yesterday



Plucky balloon bid has already run out of steam

THE first all-British attempt to balloon around the world proved the mettle of its oddcouple pilots in a near-perfect launch in Spain yesterday.

Andy Elson, a West Country engineer, and Colin Pres-cot, an old-Etonian Superman stuntman, believe their balloon will be first around the world due to national qualities of perseverance, daring and, above all, understate

By 9am this morning the balloon is expected to be nearing the border of Algeria, flying at around 35mph and 24,000ft.

They have been forced to go low and slow" in order to avoid China, which has refused access to all British-registered balloons after Richard Branson defied its airspace regulations in his balloon at Christmas.

The team estimate that the China ban has put an extra five days on the projected 15-day journey. Mr Elson, 45, hung off the

outside of the Cable and Wireless capsule as its 192ft-tall bal-loon lifted into the bright sunshine above a golf course in Almeria at 9.50am yesterday. As be put satellite antennae in place, Mr Prescot, 48, from Stockbridge, Hampshire watched the hundreds of weilwishers below, including Mr

Elson's 87-year-old mother Phyllis, and his wife, whom he called on a satellite phone. "I was looking up at him in the sky when he called and said he was very pleased with the launch," said Susie Pres-

The flight director, Ian Ashpole, said that the weather for the next five days looked favourable both for easy flying and for the pilots to sun themselves by sitting outside on their fuel cannisters.

"It was a brilliant launch. all the modifications Andy has had to make worked perfectly," said Ian Ashpole, the flight director. The only faulty equipment at present was the

'Church seeks its members' advice

BY RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

THE Archbishops of Canterbury and York are to set up "focus groups" to find out what members of the Church of England really want. The "rolling research programme" will consist of groups set up in 20 of the Church's 43 dioceses in England.

It was launched yesterday by the new Archbishops' Council, the 19-member body chaired by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, and the Archbishop of York, Dr David Hope. The consultation exercise is

the first important initiative of body nicknamed "Carey's Curia" which came into being on January I as part of a move to give the Church stronger leadership from the centre.

The research programme will be run along modern business management lines. It is being directed by Jayne Ozanne, a member of the Arch-

Brookside tackles adult theme

By Hannah Betts

THE Channel 4 soap opera Brookside launches its latest sensational story-line today. This time it is not going to be incest, heroin addiction or patricide, but adult literacy. Viewers will discover that

popular mother of four Niamh Musgrove (played by Barbara Drennan) is secretly illiterate. The show will be followed by a trailer for "Brockie Basics", a nationwide scheme under which 800 basic skills agencies will be rebranded as "Brookie" learning centres offering literacy classes and workbooks move is Brookside's contribution to the Government's Year of Reading. Phil Redmond, the soap's creator, said: "We've exaggerated the story because it's drama but all the elements are very typical."

> Free Books for Schools Token, page 26



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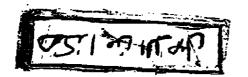


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Sir, there's

a GMO in

your soup

Waiters are to be

obliged to list

dishes with gene

foods, reports

Dominic

Kennedy

ganisms. Will they have to wait to be asked? Should they

point to each item on the menu

and say which are genetically modified before the diners se-

lect their meal? Should they

wait for a customer to choose a

certain dish, then announce it

contains GMOs? Will there be

cides to include the informa-

tion on menus, but the custom-

er asks for another dish as a

side helping? Ian McKerracher.

chief executive of the Restau-

rant Association, said: "You

can imagine the scenario

where an item not on the

menu, like a bread roll, is be-

ing offered to the customer.

The waiter would have to say:

'Good evening, sir. Do you care for a bread roll that con-

LOCAL AUTHORITIES MODIFY MENUS

COUNCILS across Britain are removing genetically modi-

fied food from school dinner menus and meals-on-wheels services. Glasgow, Scotland's largest local authority, yester-

day became the latest to issue instructions to its catering

staff to replace all GM products in the wake of the recent

health scare. A recent Food Commission survey of 33 Lon-

don authorities revealed that 21 were "actively seeking to

avoid GM foods wherever possible". Nottinghamshire

County Council said yesterday that it had removed GM

food from school dinners and meals on wheels last year.

What if the restaurateur de-

a set form of wording?

Montey Research Cestre. Wymondham Agglee Lik Crop Proteotica Ltd., King's Lynn Lugden Hill Farth, King's Lynn Hill Farth, Norwich Crown Point Farth. Norwich Brunsted Hall, Statham Monte Hall Farth, Downham Market Wheel Crop Americanush

itin Impes Centre, Coincy Toe Brackendale, Bingam

Scotish Agricultura College, Colley Cults Farm, Pile Pitgaveny Estate, Eigin Tillycorthie, Udney Boghall Farm, Edmburgh Gourdin/Mytnefield Farm, nr Dunder

with birds feeding on weeds, seeds and as-

Friends of the Earth say that genetical-

ly modified crops could be the last straw

for the skylark, whose breeding popula-

tion has fallen by 54 per cent since 1969.

Other birds at risk include the corn

bunting the grey partridge and the song

thrush. Pipistrelle bats and horseshoe

bats, which rely on insect prey, could suf-fer, and more intensive farming would

Yesterday it emerged that the Environ-

ment Agency, in an unpublished report

written last summer, has highlighted sim-

ilar fears of weedkiller overuse with ge-

netically altered crops. These studies and

mounting public disquiet have convinced

Yesterday Michael Meacher, the Envi-

hit the brown hare.

مجتجة.

The state of

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were asking the same question last night: "Who is in charge?" After seven days when the Government's handling of the GM foods issue appeared to be in total confusion, several senior officials pointed to the lack of co-ordination.

One of the Government's worst weeks in terms of presentation has also happened when Alastair Campbell, the Prime Minister's official spokesman, has taken a holiday. The result has been different ministers appearing on a variety of radio and television programmes saying different things. The Conservative Party has made the most of it as a consumer issue and there has been no concerted attempt to allay public concerns

try's huge agricultural areas. But in Brit-ain wildlife and farming are intertwined. ed to be in charge have kept quiet. Nick Brown, the Agriculture Minister, in charge of the food safety aspects of GM food, has been in Brussels. John Prescott. the Deputy Prime Minister in control of the environmental aspects. has been silent, as has Stephen Byers, the Trade and Industry Secretary, responsible for the business and scien-

> carry the can. The Prime Minister has intervened personally, taking an aggressive line by insisting that GM foods are safe to eat. But other ministers have been more cautious, making clear that there is insufficient evidence about GM crops to even consider crop commercialisation. Tony Blair is talking about food in supermarkets while other ministers are talk-



OFFICIALS across Whitehall

"Over the last few days it has been crisis management." said one. "The combination of the tabloids and the Opposition have knocked the Government off course because we were not prepared."

Those who might be expect-

tific aspects.

They have left it to their more junior colleagues, Jeff Food Minister. Michael Meacher, Environment Minister, and, worst of the advisory committee that research is urgently needed into the wider concerns. all, Lord Sainsbury of Turville - with his numerous links with GM food companies - to

ing about crops in fields. Downing Street insists that Jack Cunningham is in charge of GM food. Yesterday both the Ministry of Agriculture and the Department of the Environment suggested that the Government might have to wait two years before there was enough evidence to prove that GM crops were environ-mentally safe. Dr Cunningham's office said that commercial crops "were likely to be sown in spring 2000".

MCR-Brooms Barn. Bury St. Edmunds KEY. **⊕** GM Farms JACOULASHAME Salby Farms Ltd. Brigsley Risgate Farms, Standard Mare Hall, Lincoln Jobbouch Marsh, Spakiling Javerton Park Farm, Ske

SITES WHERE GM CROPS HAVE BEEN GROWN

RAB HQ Trienground; Cent DAS Boxworth, Boxworth Maris Lane, To

Wildlife risk to be investigated

By NICK NUTTALL

A COMMITTEE of scientists, industrialists and wildlife experts is being set up to investigate the impact of genetically modified crops on farming, wildlife and the

The move follows concern that the wider effects of the new agricultural technology are being ignored as the Government gears up for commercial plantings next year. Details of the plan will emerge today when the Government's Advisory Committee on Releases to the Environment meets. It will hear details of research showing that more than 95 per cent of weeds, vital for the survival of farmland birds, could be eradicated by the new technology because it allows farmers to over-use herbicides.

The findings, which have been leaked to The Times, have come from studies of American farms, where modified crops such as herbicide-resistant soya have been commerically grown for four years. Brian Johnson, a senior scientist with



Old Manor Farm, Grantha

Skylark: thrives on weeds

English Nature, the Government's wildlife advisers, said yesterday: "American farmers are getting above 95 per cent eradication. Some are claiming a total annhiliation of weeds in their fields. If you transfer that kind of efficiency here, you

using herbicides on traditionally developed crops were eradicating no more than 80 per cent of weeds, and in many

can imagine the impact on birds."

Dr Johnson said that British farmers

ronment Minister, denied that this report was suppressed and was backed by sourccases only 60 per cent. es at the advisory committee who said Much American wildlife lives in vast

Crop experiment giant admits farm safety lapse

MONSANTO, one of the world's largest producers of genetically modified foods, yesterday admitted neglecting safety barriers intended to stop an altered crop escaping into the environment.

WAITERS will soon be re-

quired to warn diners when

they are about to be served a

portion of genetically modified food. Under government

plans, pizza delivery boys, sea-side landladies, hamburger

bar attendants and fish and

chip shop staff will also be re-

quired to tell customers about

the origins of their meal's in-

after the restaurant trade re-

belled against ministers' plans

to require caterers to declare

GM ingredients on all menus.

The Ministry of Agriculture.

Fisheries and Food is now pro-

posing to give caterers the op-tion of declaring GM ingredi-

ents by staff rather than in

writing on menus or notices. Customers telephoning for de-

livery food will be told on the

The caterers, however, main-

tain that the new rules, due to

be introduced in May along

with labelling in shops, are

still impractical, distressing

The Government has yet to

decide exactly how waiters

and waitresses will fulfil their

duty to tell customers that

their dinner has been laced

with genetically modified or-

and unenforceable.

The move is a compromise

gredients.

telephone.

A test plot of winter oilseed rape had been treated to make it resistant to the weedkiller Roundup, also produced by Monsanto. Some experts and pressure groups fear that if it had spread to surrounding farmland, it might have cross-pollinated with other plants to produce a "superweed" resistant to herbicides.

Health and Safety Executive monitors who discovered the defective barrier issued a destruction order for the crop and any seeds harvested over the Paul Wilkinson on the first trials prosecution

tains genetically modified

soya?" It would be not only on-

Foreign customers could be-

come alarmed and confused if

waiters suddenly announced

that their food contained genet-

ically modified material, ac-

cording the the British Hospi-

tality Association. Phil Phil-

lips, technical services manag-er for the association, which

represents hotels, restaurants.

canteens and contract cater-

ers, said it might be difficult to

explain to a Japanese or Dan-

dent in the United Kingdom.

they might say, 'Why are you telling me that?' If the caterer

has to tell the consumer that

there are genetically modified ingredients in particular dish-

es, to be quite honest he might

as well not put them on the

menu. People are not going to eat them if you highlight

The rules are part of a Euro-

pean Commission regulation

negotiated when Jack Cun-

ningham was in the chair dur-

May. They apply only to genetically modified soya and

maize, not tomato puree,

which is already on sale in Brit-

Councils fear the regula-

tions will be impossible to po-

lice. The Chartered Institute of

Environmental Health, repre-

senting food inspectors, said: "For enforcement officers, the

technology you would require

to test for every possible combi-

nation of genetic engineering

would be so onerous that you

would never be able to test the

Ethical spotlight, page 28

product sufficiently."

ish supermarkets.

Britain's presidency last

'If the customer is not resi-

erous but quite unworkable."

next two years from a 50-metre radius
Earth described the penalties as pathetaround the site.

In the first prosecution of its kind in Britain, the American-controlled company admitted a breach of the 1990 Environmental Protection Act at a Lincolnshire farm last summer. It was fined £17.000 and ordered to pay £6,150 costs. Perryfields Holdings, a British-German wholesale seed merchant that was conducting its own rape trial on the site, similarly admitted breaching the Act and was fined £14,000 with £5,000 costs.

After the magistrates' hearing at Caistor, Lincolnshire. Friends of the

ic. Peter Riley, its bio-technology cam-paigner, said: "It is just lunch money to these people. The controls they have to follow are too narrow anyway, there should be much greater monitoring of

the potential risks involved." Dan Verakis, a Monsanto spokesman, denied outside the court that cross-pollination might produce a superweed. "It was not a risk." he said. "Modified oilseed rape can only crosspollinate with weedy relatives. There are no weeds with which it can cross-

pollinate in the UK. Simon Parrington, for the Health court that the trials had been approved by the Government under strict conditions. They included planting a sixyard wide barrier of sterile oilseed rape round the trial plots. The 60 by 40 metres trial ground at Rothwell. Lincoln-shire, was visited by an HSE inspector making a routine check. The six-metre pollen barrier had been partially replaced by an earthen track. The farmer said that it was to let people tending the plot take farm machinery in.

Rhodri Price Lewis, counsel for the two firms, said: "This was not in any way a deliberate or reckless flouting of the controls." They now made site visits and regularly contacted those carrying out the trials.



The Lincolnshire site: a protective border was cut back

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The Brits without brats is a dry affair

By CAROL MIDGLEY, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

THE anarchic reputation of the Brit awards ceremony suffered yesterday as it passed without its usual crop of embarrassing stunts and misbe-

The event lacked the hellraising stars who get them-selves arrested or drench Cabinet ministers with water. There were only polite acceptance speeches and calls to end Third World poverty.

With no Oasis, no Spice Girls and no Jarvis Cocker, some observers said that older guests such as David Bowie, Bono of U2, Cher and Whitney Houston had set a mature example. Others suggested that the event reflected current pop music — middle of the road. Chris Evans, who hosted the event for two consecutive years but later declared that the Brits were "over" as an awards spectacle, stayed

away.
What Cherie Booth made of the entertainment was difficult to tell. She, like the many Cabinet ministers present, was tucked so far out of harm's way that observers said it was



Cocker: replaced by wiser heads on older shoulders

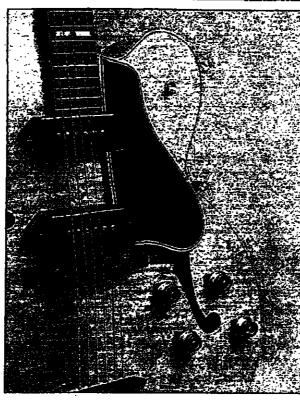
difficult even to see her. Organvent a rerun of last year's headline-making event, when the Chumbawumba star Danbert Nobacon poured iced water over John Prescott. The only mineral water to make an anpearance was sipped delicately by members of The Corrs, a band that receives more air

play on Radio 2 than Radio I.
Only Robbie Williams, celebrating his three Brit awards, seemed willing to behave in true rock woll fashion. The former drink and drugs addict told reporters: "Now I've got an excuse to get drunk again." and held up a sign saying "leg-less" before downing a series of double vodkas.

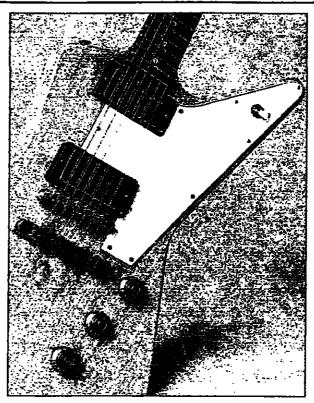
There may be cause for the muted celebrations. The singles market has collapsed. Although CD album sales in 1998 were up 8.3 per cent on 1997 with a turnover of E995.4 million, experts fear tough times ahead for the pop

An influx of cheap imports from European countries with weaker currencies is taking sales away from UK record labels and profits are beginning to suffer from aggressive pricing and increasing promotional costs.Singles sales, which can make or break new names, have declined by 12 per cent from 1997.

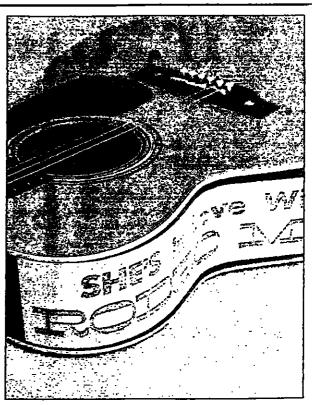
Few stars stayed behind for the after-show party at the Lon-don Arena. The Manic Street Preachers drifted off to the Met bar and Bono was spotted at Titanic with Angus Deayton. Robbie Williams had organised a party at Chinawhites in Soho but observers say he kept a low profile. Others simply went home early.



1956 age to Chuck Berry, his blues idol. Berry told Clap-ton how he had used the guitar on his classic on ES-350TN: bought by Clapton as a homrecordings and Clapton eventually tracked one down in the 1980s. He surprised his hero by playing it onstage with him during a performance



experimental solid body. Clapton bought it in the 1980s and used it to recreate classic hits such as Crossroads on his 1987 world tour. This Explorer is one of only 19 released commercially. Richard Chapman said: "I have never seen one in this country." Bidding is expected to top £75,000.



Martin 000-28 steel string acoustic: as Clapton succumbed to drug and alcohol addiction in early 1970s, he retreated from rock and development and acoustic music. From the mid-1970s oped an interest in country and acoustic music. From the mid-1970s he made extensive use of this Martin at home and in concert. It can

Cream of Clapton collection up for auction



Eric Clapton, greatest blues-rock guitarist

HISTORIANS of popular music, collectors of rock memorabilia and, no doubt, a few speculators will be heading for New York in June. Eric Clapton, hailed as the world's greatest blues-rock guitarist, is to auction 100 guitars from his collection.

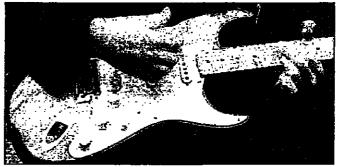
By Adam Sherwin

Musical instrument experts say that the Clapton collection amounts to a history of rock music because it contains some of the earliest electric guitars.

Although Clapton has an obsessive love for the tools of his trade, he is giving up almost his entire collection to raise funds for the drug rehabilitation centre he has set up in Antigua.

The sale, which is expected to

raise £1 million, confirms that the electric guitar has become one of the defining objects of the 20th century. Even Downing Street occasionally reverberates to Tony Blair's Fender Stratocaster, Clapton's favourite model



Surburst Fender Stratocaster: Clapton played the searing opening riff to *Layla*, in 1970, on "Brownie", the most valuable item in the sale. It is battered and scratched valuable item in the sale. It is battered and scratched after years of touring and is scorched from cigarettes lodged in the neck during long solos. The Strat became his trademark guitar and Fender continues to produce personalised models for him. Expected to fetch up to £100,000.

and the item chosen by the Prime Minister as his symbol of early works by Leo Fender, the the century".

used to record Layla with Derek

Bidding is expected to reach £100,000 for "Brownie", the 1956 Fender Stratocaster that Clapton

American guitar pioneer of the 1950s, will be going under the hammer, including a 1952 Fender Telecaster valued at £10,000. The Gibson ES-335 is the model

Clapton used to recreate the distorted blues rock of the 1966 trio Cream. There should also be a few bargains for fans wishing to own a guitar touched by genius.

Richard Chapman, Britain's leading historian of the electric guitar, who is helping Clapton to catalogue the collection, said: "Eric told me that he has love affairs with his guitars and gets inspiration from them. Sometimes he will put them away and rediscover them a decade later. This sale is an important history of the electric guitar as well as Eric Clapton's career."

Clapton, 53, who will attend the sale at Christie's New York on June 24, said: "I wanted to make a gesture to draw attention to the Crossroads Centre and demonstrate the extent of my personal commitment. The Christie's auction finally gives me a chance to share with others the instruments that have given me so much pleasure throughout

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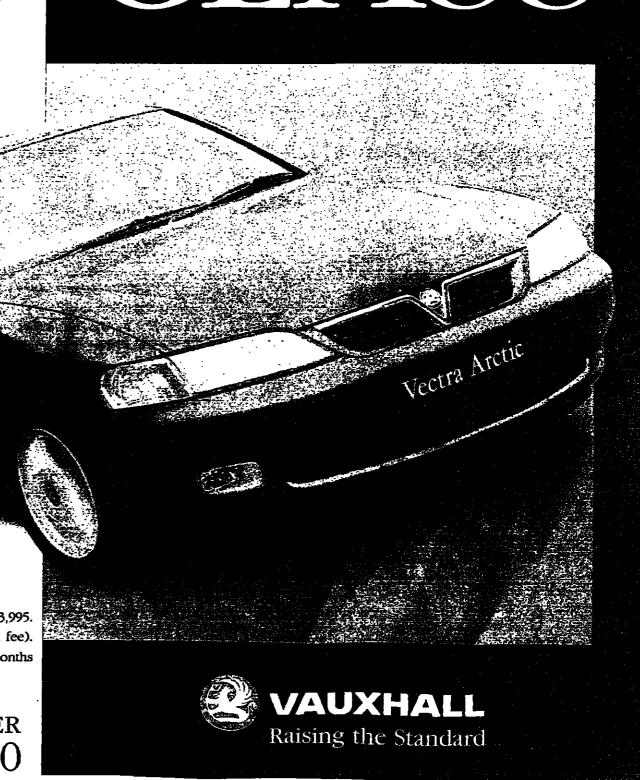
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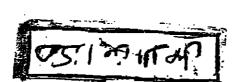


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Picking a row with Lord Boston is like bayoneting a blancmange

start a fight with Lord Boston of Faversham. It is simply not possible. Easier to win a fight with Baroness Thatcher than pick one with

You might as well try to provoke St Francis of Assisi into fisticuffs. Lord Boston is so insistently, emphatically, ineffably polite that it amounts almost to an act of aggression: a raised, silk-gloved fist in the face of a coarse world.

f any bovver-boy really seeks to win his political spurs. I challenge him successfully to those tiresome queries about fabric those tiresome queries about fabric and facilities which, in a public school, would fall to the bursar. The row last year about the Lord Chancellor's wallpaper would have finished a brittler chap off, but Boston is of more pliable stuff.

Yesterday it fell to this acme of amiability. this summit of civility. this paragon of politesse, to answer the grumbles of the disabled over facilities in the Palace of Westminster for blind or partially sighted peers. Of course for Lord Boston,

after the steeplechase of Lord Irvine of Lairg's fix-tures and fittings, this trot. He excels in what was a gentle afternoon might be called Exemplar Lordspeak: a language in which every hard object or decision crumbles.

linked by extravagant courtesies. "Your lordships may be so good as to call to mind what, in my noble friend's inimitable and luminous way, he has been kind enough to describe as the special

like a dunked biscuit, into a loose

flotilla of limp subordinate clauses

MATTHEW PARRIS **POLITICAL SKETCH**

expertise of your lordships' House ... This barrage of cordiality is proof even against a Tebbit; against a grunting little posse of partially-sighted peers, it proved invincible. Boston burbled respectfully away about 21 lifts, new handrails, "tactile floor covering", innumerable ramps and "a guide dog exercise ground". There were audio recordings of proceedings, too.

would be "happy to consider" any further suggestions, but said it not in the perfunctory way most people do: he convinced us that he

would be really, really happy —
that his heart would sing — if anyone had a suggestion. After this, nobody had it them to be cross. Lord Morris of Manchester (who had asked the original question) melted, but mentioned that the RNIB could advise. Oh, trilled Lord B. he would be "veryhappy to receive representations from the

RNIB". Then, with a beatific smile, he asked if he might congratulate Lord Morris on being invited by Rehabilitation International to chair their World Planning Group. Morris beamed. Everyone rumbled "Hear, hear!"

Lord Longford, 93, made a valiant bid to mix it with Boston. Some peers, he complained, "can't get the help they need. Can't we do more? They're stuck. Stuck."

Longford might as well have bayoneted a blancmange. It takes two to quarrel, and Boston was not playing. When Lord Ashley of Stoke, who has been cured of pro-found deafness, tried to raise the stakes and discuss other disabilities, Boston was all smiles. Sadly, he simply mustn't stray from the terms of the question, but we're all very pleased with the enormous very pleased with the enormous progress Lord Ashley has made himself - and has endeavoured to pass on to others." Hear, hear took

on a special piquancy.

Lord Boston is an example to us all. Why, in that case, does one have to suppress a sneaking desire to watch him and Norman Tebbit wrestling in mad?

The second of with

Gays to launch court battle for asylum rights

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDEN

A GAY man is to ask the High Court to decide whether homosexuals are a separate social group entitled to claim asylum in the UK to escape homophobic persecution in their home countries.

The court is also to be asked to rule whether it is reasonable to send a homosexual home and expect him to pretend to

Mherdad Jawwdat, 26, is to bring the test case after a special immigration adjudicator said he could return to Tehran so long as he wore his hair short and avoided wearing make-up on the street.

Charles Bennett, the adjudicator, ruled that even if the police in Iran recognised him as someone they had previously accused of being gay, "they will see him with short hair and conclude (to their thinking) he has seen the error of his former ways, or turned from what they will consider his former wickedness, or that he has simply 'grown up'."

An Immigration Appeal Tri-bunal upheld a decision by Mr Bennett to refuse asylum to Mr Jawwdat. Mr Bennett said that society did not recognise gays as a social group any more than smokers, left-handthose who had lost a limb. Mark Henderson, counsel

for Mr Jawwdat, told the High Court that the Iranian authorities regarded gays as "corrupt parasites" and a "tangible manifestation of westernisa-tion". He added that homosexuals in Iran were punished by torture and even death.

Mr Justice Collins gave Mr Jawwdat leave to seek judicial review of the decision by the tribunal. Mr Jawwdat, who had been held as an immigration detainee in Rochester prison in Kent since November. was given bail on condition that he lives at the home in Bayswater, West London, of a businessman friend who stood

The High Court case is the latest attempt by gays to persuade the Government to accept that homosexuals represent a specific social group under the 1951 Geneva Convention on refugees.

Anyone claiming asylum under the Convention would have to prove they had a "wellfounded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, membership of a particular social group or political opin-ion". It is understood that a homosexual claiming persecution would have to come from a country where persecution is systematic or almost govern-

the gay rights lobby group.

said last night: "The UN convention on refugees was created in the aftermath of the Second World War. The Nazis thought gays were a separate social group and persecuted

them. "If the Nazis recognised them as a separate social group, then we should have no difficulty in recognising them as such.

In the past governments have not defined in the abstract whether homosexuals might or might not be a social group. Individual claims are considered on their merits with sexual orientation taken

☐ Thousands of deportation orders on immigrants may have to be cancelled after the Appeal Court ruled the Home Secretary had to prove that the political situation in a country was safe for the return of asylum-seekers.

Three judges ruled that Mo-hammed Arif, aged 36, from Luton in Bedfordshire, could stay in Britain because Jack Straw had not proved he could safely be returned to the disputed area of Azad Kashmir. Mr Arif, who fled to Britain

in 1992, was sentenced to seven years' hard labour in his absence on "false" charges incla demonstration against the ruling Muslim Convention.



The Government wants to reduce the number of refugees who seek judicial reviews

Straw acts to curb appeals

ASYLUM-SEEKERS lose their accommodation and vouchers for food and clothing if they bring a High Court challenge to decisions barring

them from Britain, the Gov-

eration of their applications

ernment disclosed yesterday (Richard Ford writes). The draconian measure is aimed at curbing the number of refugees who mount judicial review proceedings over decisions taken during consid-

for asylum. The move, revealed in a Home Office document outlinw a new port Directorate will operate. anger

groups working with refu-gees. Rachel Rees, communications director of the Refu-gee Council, said: "This will ef-fectively mean a denial of natural justice."

Under the Government's plan any asytum-seeker who seeks to bring a judicial review will not be able to stay in state-funded hostels or housing or receive vouchers to be exchanged for food or clothing at local shops. They will be forced to rely on family or friends for support or risk being destitute.

"no accommo letion no voucher" rule after plans to crive social security benefits.

ing any right to launch judicial review proceedings was abandoned. The Home Office is concerned that legal aid is being misused by asylum-seekers bringing court actions to spin out their applications.

In 1997, there were almost 2.000 applications for judicial review, the vast majority being legally aided. The Home Office said that in many cases leave to seek judicial review was rejected by the courts.

Under Mr Straw's plan for an overhaul of the asylum lum-seekers will no longer re-

NEWS IN BRIEF

Tories broke faith on tax, says Maude

The Tory party must work to regain its reputation as the party of low and honest taxation, because it had lost the "people's trust on tax", Francis Maude, the Shadow Chancellor, said yesterday. Among the reasons the Conservatives were "pasted" at the last election was because the people felt they were guilty of a breach of faith over tax, he said.

The tax burden rose during the last Government and the Tories should have been more open about the taxes they did increase. Mr Maude effectively acknowledged to an international conference on tax planning that a Tory government would never put up the basic rates of tax. "Margaret Thatcher's legacy is such that no serious political party can now contemplate increasing the basic or higher rate of income tax and hope to get elected," he said.

Cronyism attacked

Tony Blair was accused yesterday of packing the eight new Regional Development Agencies for England with Labour supporters. Lord Harningfield, Tory deputy chairman of the Local Government Association, said the Government had revealed "chronic cronyism" in the way it had selected council representatives to the new agencies, which will start work in April. He said the party had taken 65 per cent of the seats although it had 46 per cent of councillors in England.

Judicial role 'wrong'

The Lord Chancellor faced calls that he should give up his role as head of the judiciary under a reformed House of Lords. The Liberal Democrat peer Lord Lester of Herne Hill told the Lords that there were disadvantages in the Lord Chancellor's being both a member of the Cabinet and head of the English judiciary. He was backing Lord Steyn, a law lord, who argued that the Lord Chancellor was always a government spokesman who pursued its political agenda.

Trip rules tightened

MPs have been banned from taking overseas trips paid for by the host country and tabling questions or motions supporting them. The Commons Committee on Standards and Privileges has accepted advice from Sir Gordon Downey. the former Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards, that several MPs may be breaching rules. Sir Gordon said: For every worthwhile visit there may well be another which, in terms of public perception, was seen as a perk."

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For more infi

Brendan Donnelly, the two ex-Tory MEPs, are not prepared to disappear qui-etly into political obscurity. After their de-selection as Tory candidates for this June's Euro-elections, the two have left the party and set up their own Pro-euro Conservative Party. That could, and has been, dismissed by Conservative Central Office as "sour grapes". However, the two

have commissioned a series of polls from MORI on how pro-Euro-pean Tory candidates might perform in the elec-

tions. The polls show that a separate pro-European group could attract double figure support and seriously embarrass William Hague.

The most recent poll, of 1.911 adults between February 5 and 8, shows that, while 19 per cent would back a Conservative Party led by Mr Hague in the elections, some 13 per cent would support a "New Conservative Party" led by Kenneth Clarke and Michael Heseltine supporting entry to the single currency. By contrast, 47 per cent would back Labour and 13 per cent the Liberal Democrats.

Of course, Mr Clarke and Mr Heseltine have no intention of leaving the party. So MORI also asked about support for a party backing entry into the single currency formed by unnamed breakaway Conservatives. This would attract II per cent support, against 20 per cent for Mr Hague's Tories.

Mr Stevens and Mr Donnelly argue that even without the leadership of Mr Clarke and Mr Heseltine, the poll suggests that a breakaway group could attract significant support and even win a few seats under the new system of proportional representation. As important, the official Tories night have only a few more MEPs than in 1994.

At present, the two MEPs are testing the water and seeing how much money they can raise before deciding

for June's elections. They want to reinforce the pro-euro campaign since they fear this would be weakened if Mr Hague's brand of Euro-scepti-cism is seen to do respectably

My hunch is that the MORI poll says more about long-term Tory divisions than short-term prospects for June's elections. 1 doubt

whether a pro-euro Tory group will do well without na-tionally-known names to attract attention. If the Referendum Party with all the late Sir James Goldsmith's money

behind it could not win more than 3 per cent in the 1997 election, then I doubt if the Stevens/Donnelly party can do much better, and possibly not as well, from a standing start.

The real significance of the poll may be for the referendum on a single currency. It suggests that Tory supporters may be far more pro-Europe-an than party members (as shown by the overwhelming backing for Mr Hague's line in last October's ballot). These divisions could emerge during the next general election when Mr Clarke and Mr Heseltine will be in as difficult a position as James Callaghan was over nuclear weapons in 1983. There could then be significant Tory defections from the leadership line at any referendum.

eading pro-Europeans in the Commons (not Heseltine but also David Curry and lan Taylor) are worried that any Stevens/Donnelly breakaway group may flop in June, damaging their

cause. At present, the West-

minster pros are taking a low profile and criticising Tony Blair for failing to offer a lead to the pro-single currency tant to risk their political futures until he does. Divisions over Europe within the Tory party have not disappeared, but are merely submerged.

Unionists meet Sinn Fein for first time

By MARTIN FLETCHER, CHIEF IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

DAVID TRIMBLE'S Ulster Unionist Party held its first bi-lateral meeting with its former enemies in Sinn Fein yester-day as the search for a breakthrough on the critical issue of IRA disarmament intensified. In another development un-

thinkable until recently, Gerry Adams and his Sinn Fein colleagues also hosted an unprecedented meeting at Stormont, the former bastion of Unionist rule, with John Dixon, Moderator of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland.

Mr Trimble had previously offered Mr Adams only oneto-one meetings in his role as First Minister, and yesterday's meeting of the two parties was another significant milestone on the road towards normali-

Five UUP members led by Mr Trimble sat down for 90 minutes in a first-floor Stormont committee room opposite a five-member Sinn Fein delegation led by Mr Adams, but the fact of the meeting proved far more significant and Sinn Fein should be joint-

than anything that came out of it. Mr Trimble said it consisted of a "restatement of familiar positions" and he had heard nothing to suggest the republican movement recog-nised its obligations to begin

disarming. He again insisted Sinn Fein could not join the Government without prior IRA disarma-ment. "I am not concerned about the mechanics, the way in which it's done and up to certain points the timing of it, provided there is a credible beginning to the process of decommissioning so we can see people have clearly signalled their intention to leave terrorism and paramilitarism be-hind," he said.

Mr Adams, who insists he cannot deliver IRA disarmament, said the Good Friday accord was an historical compromise that put the issue into the hands of General John de Chastelain, head of the international decommissioning body. He argued that the UUP meeting is just the beginning of scratching the surface of what needs to be done." he said. "The difficulties and challenges are shared difficulties and challenges." ... The UUP delegation included the MPs John Taylor and

Ken Maginnis, who have both

survived republican terrorist

attacks, Sir Reg Empey, former mayor of Belfast, and

ly defending the accord against parties like Ian Pais-ley's Democratic Unionists

who would wreck it. Republi-

cans and Ulster Unionists

have to get it into our heads

that we are on one side, and

that's difficult and that's chal-lenging and this morning's

Michael McGimpsey, an as-The Sinn Fem team includ-

Martin McGuinness and the Sinn Fein president Gerry Adams after meeting David Trimble's Ulster Unionists ed Martin McGuinness Mitchel McLaughlin, the parchairman. Lucilita Breathnacht, the general secretary, and Bairbre de Bruin, an

> Officials said there were no handshakes, but the mood was cordial, Christian names were used, and there were some "lively exchanges" tempered by moments of humour. Mr Adams said he believed the meeting had started to

"bridge the gap of mistrust".

Dr Dixon and his Presbyterian colleagues used their meeting with Sinn Fein to press the case for IRA disarmament. "We feel it is totally and utterly immoral to talk in terms of de mocracy on the one hand and terrorism or the threat of violence on the other." he said.

LIQUIDATION 'BIT OVER THE TOP'

DAVID TRIMBLE describes a call for the "liqui-dation" of militant republicans merely as "a bit over the top" in a television programme on Sunday (Marim Fleicher writes).

Northern Ireland's First Minister is asked his opinion of a 1972 speech in which Bill Craig, leader of the right-wing Vanguard movement, told Protestants: "We must build up a dossier of the men and the women who are a menace to this country because, if and when the politicians fail us, it may be our job to liquidate the enemy." Mr

sis of the situation."

1998 Nobel peace prize, replies: "A bit over the top ... These things occasionally happen. Mr Craig, now a reclu-

Trimble, joint winner of the

sive 74-year-old, gives his first interview in 20 years for Peter Taylor's series Loy alists, and insists that he meant exactly what he said. Mr Trimble, who seldom talks about his membership of Vanguard, says Mr

Craig "was enormously influential on me. He seemed to be the only major figure in Unionism that had any coherent thought or analy-

Wales waits for result of divisive contest

ALUN MICHAEL and Rhodri Morgan will sit down in private next week for the first time in months. The two vastly different personalities will discuss how best to bury the bitterness and suspicion that have marred their battle to decide who will lead the Welsh assembly. And they will both

That much is certain. But who will be wearing the crown as the First Secretary-in-waiting of Wales remains anybody's guess.

When voting in the contest for the

Roland Watson on a leadership battle going down to the wire

Wales closes tomorrow, it will set the seal on a campaign which has divided the Labour hierarchy from its grass roots. London from Cardiff and even political households in the Prin-

Last night the Michael team was gently predicting a win for its man in what has been a genuine cliff-hanger. One leading member who started the week talking of a win by "significantenough yesterday to upgrade that to without the support of the GMB. Mr "less than 5 per cent". Mr Morgan believes there will be less than 0.5 per cent in it either way.

The unknown factors remain the per cent share of the final ballot up its sleeve until tomorrow, and the third of the electoral college set aside for ordinary Labour members. If Mr Morgan takes that by 3-1, and polls have suggested he could, he could win

Morgan says he has received three strong rumours that he has won the GMB. He floats the heretical truth that some ministers who are duty may vote for him in the privacy of their own postal ballot. And he suggests that a call for unity from senior Welsh MPs could be interpreted as a prehude to defeat for their man. Mr Michael declines to clutch at

straws even if they are thrust at him by the handful. One of his aides expresses confidence that the GMB is in the bag and that Mr Morgan will suffer a "rude shock" from the constituency returns. But Mr Michael himself refuses to be drawn. What he is, though, is "irritated

on the personalities of the two rivals. But in a campaign to lead a body whose powers are strictly limited and in which policy differences hardly stand out, it is not difficult to see why that has been the case.

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English couple sue Scots for racism

Commission for Racial Equality is backing damages claim, report Bill Frost and Shirley English

FRANK and Sandra Walters had been hoping for a peaceful retirement when they moved from a tough Liverpool suburb to the quiet of a Scottish

They are now living in England again, claiming that they were driven out by a stream of anti-English taunts that culminated in them being barred from the village pub.

Today they are taking their claim for racial discrimination to Damfries Sheriff Court with backing from the Commission for Racial Equality (CRE).

The case comes amid a growing number of claims by English people living in Scotland that they have suffered racism at the hands of Scots, John and Jane Annable, originally from Nottinghamshire, announced this week that anti-English

abuse was forcing them to leave their They home in Musselburgh, near Edinburgh, and return called us to England. One officer with Lothian English and Borders Police said there had been scum and an increase in allegations of anti-English racism since told us to the decision to set get back up the Scottish parliament. The CRE said that since it beacross the gan records of anti-English racism five border? years ago there had

complaints, six last year. Mr and Mrs Walters are claiming a total of £20,000 from Colin Pearson, publican of the Farmers Inn in Clarencefield, near Dumfries, and his wife, Jacqueline. They claim that the couple banned Mr Walters and that meant they could not use the neighbouring village post office, which Mrs Pearson runs.

been a total of 22

Mr Walters, 51, is suing the publican for £10,000 for barring him from the pub and refusing him the service of the post office, and is claiming £5,000 from Mrs Pearson. Mrs Walters, 53, is suing Mr Pearson for £5,000.

The English couple claim that a "clique of villagers" led sociation property in Clarencefield, where a large proportion of the population is English. They say that in addition to suffering verbal abuse, rubbish was dumped at their door and placards were put up with the slogan "English out".

Mr and Mrs Walters allege that, even before receiving a solicitor's letter stating that he was barred from the pub, Mr Walters was given the "cold shoulder" on the premises and on one evening Flower of Scotland was played 16 times on the jukebox.

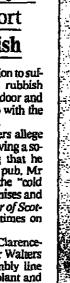
Before moving to Clarence-field in April 1997, Mr Walters worked on the assembly line at Ford's Halewood plant and his wife was a legal secretary. When their health failed, they decided to retire to Scotland. Clarencefield we were subjected to racial abuse and taunt-

> scum and told us to get back across the border where we belonged, and the stopped. Before too long, we withdrew from village life, in fact withdrew from life altogether. I sat behind closed curtains taking sedatives and wondering why we were being picked on. Our only crime was be ing born south of the border." Mr

stick, said his first visit to the Farmers Inn prefaced the onset of a campaign against the couple. He claimed that he was singled out for discrimination by regulars because of his

"I went in to make friends, have a few pints and play a game of pool. We had just moved and the local pub seemed a good place to meet fellow villagers. But all I encountered was coldness and hostility. The kids put Flower Scotland on the jukebox 16 times in one evening and muttered about English scum."

that as relations with the community declined further, to gather outside their home to chant anti-English slogans during the small hours. Then,



"A formight after moving to ing," Mrs Walters said. "They called us English

> Home bleak home: Frank and Sandra Walters say they were driven out by taunts. Other English villagers said that they had been made welcome Walters, who walks with the aid of a they say. there were late-night abusive telephone calls. "We are not against them, even now. We just cannot under-

one must make a stand against those responsible." Mrs Walters added: "Who would ever have imagined that racism was alive in a quiet corner of the borders? People should be allowed to live wherever they like. After all,

Mr and Mrs Walters claim Mr and Mrs Pearson said

this is supposed to be the United Kingdom. Many of the villagers, half of whom are English, are be-

hind the Pearsons, saying that

messages on their answerphone from men with London accents who told them they were coming to "fix you for messing with the English.

The couple said that they

stand why they picked on us." Mr Walters said. "But there is racism in Scotland and somehad always welcomed English people to the area. Mr Pearson, 42, who ran pubs in England and has an English father. said: "There is no anti-English feeling here. Half of the people are English. It simply does not exist."

Loreburn Housing, which rented a bungalow to the Walters, said that the couple's first complaints made no mention of racism and centred on common types of disputes with neighbours. The anti-English

The association was also the they had received threatening subject of a complaint to the

CRE by the couple, which was later dropped. The CRE said that the decision to fund the case against Mr and Mrs Pearson, which could cost £100,000 if dismissed, was not taken lightly. "Victims of racism are not just of Asian or Afro-Carribean origin ... hatred and prejudice do not just depend

on colour, they may be alive north of the border," a spokes-Dumfries and Galloway has recently seen the re-emergence of an extreme nationalist organisation, the Scottish Separatist Group (SSG). The group, which uses postbox addresses in Dumfries and Dublin, sent a three-page pamto make explosive devices. The pamphlet also declared support for the Dublin-based Scot-National Liberation Army, allegedly run by Adam

Mr Bushy, who is widely be-lieved to be sole member of the liberation army, was linked to a wave of hoax letter bombs and death threats in 1994. There is a warrant for his arrest in Scotland.

Although police and politicians say that the SSG is the work of "just one or two sad people", there is popular concern that the area will be tainted by the prejudice. Dumfries and Galloway, where a fifth of the population is English, re-

NEWS IN BRIEF

Mother is buried with moors girl

Ann West mother of the moors murder victim Lesley Ann Downey, was buried in her daughter's grave in a cemetery near Manchester yesterday. Mrs West, 69, died from liver cancer last week, 34 years after the killing of Lesley Ann, 10, by Myra Hindley and Ian Brady. The funeral was attended by family and friends, who are determined to keep the location of the grave secret. Supporters of Mrs West's campaign to keep Hindley in jail for life will be able to pay tribute at a mem-orial service later this year.

Cigarettes plea

coalition of health groups yes a terday demanded the band ning of additives such as sugar that allegedly make the taste of cigarettes more appealing to children.

£1.1m award

John O'Connor, of Dunstable. Bedfordshire, who suffered brain damage when a steel pipe hit his head in 1996 while working on the Jubilee Line extension of London's Underground, accepted El.1 million to settle his damages claim.

Close to his heart

Jan Gilfillan, 53, a security guard, was rushed to hospital in Dundee with a suspected heart attack, still holding the £2 million he was carrying to fill a cash machine. He later underwent a triple heart by-

Sick horses link

Epidemics of the world's most lethal horse disease. African horse sickness, are almost certainly triggered by the climatic shift known as El Nino, scientists at the l'astitute for Animal Health in Pirbright, Surrey, report in Nature.

Global tubbies

The makers of the Teletubbies television programme, now being exported round the world, have replaced Jessica Korean child to appeal to the country's children.

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ent Torn McCulloch said that

the area did not have a racism

problem but he admitted that

there was "a minority" with ex-

treme views and that anti-Eng-

fish groups had been moni-

Local people acknowledge

that low-level harassment of

the English was common and

worsened after the film Brave-

heart, about the nationalist

hero William Wallace, but they

have no truck with extremists.

people say they don't like the English, usually after a few

pints. They call my husband

E.B. (English Bastard), but it

Ruby Sankey, 54, from Dumfries, who has an English husband, said: "I have heard

tored in the past.

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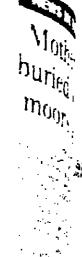
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CISM THE TIMES THURSDAY FEBRUARY 18 1999 DOC Hollywood' The Times Thursday FEBRUARY 18 1999 Local Lanife under legal knife

pistic surgeon enlarged the beasts of Sylvester Stallone's femer girlfriend without her ensent to make them look ig but perky", and often pretaded to work on Michael Jakson's nose without in fact liing his scalpel, according to cart papers.

The surgeon was also acused of mocking Don Johnsn's penis and using a female asistant as a "human cataigue". Even in Los Angeles, aidavits have seldom con-uned as much freakish detail athose submitted on Tuesday t four former employees of I Steven Hoefflin, the sur-on known as "Doc Hollywod" for his miracle-working vic the smiles and silhouettes

cthe stars. Pamela Anderson, Zsa Zsa Gbor and the Sultan of Bruri are among dozens of celebry clients to have slipped trough a special private enance into Dr Hoefflin's tiny inta Monica operating theae. known as the Aspen bom, in pursuit of physical rrfection. They may hesitate fore arranging future visits. Dr Hoefflin faces a legal assult in which for the first time

te alleged activities in his clin-The most peculiar involve

is plaintiffs have named names and offered details of

The doyen of Tinseltown's plastic surgeons stands accused of cutting remarks, Giles Whittell writes

Sylvester Stallone and Angie Everhart, his former girlfriend. According to Barbara Maywood, a Hoefflin employee who with three colleagues sued the doctor for alleged sexual harassment and battery in 1995, which was later settled out of court, Ms Everhart arranged that year to have her breasts reshaped, but not enlarged; the man from the Ram-bo films had other ideas, Ms Maywood claimed.



"After [Ms Everhart] was anaesthetised, her boyfriend,

Sylvester Stalkone, proceeded

to enter the operating room," she wrote in her affidavit. "To

my knowledge, his presence

during the procedure was not

authorised by the patient. Mr Stallone told Dr Hoefflin to

make her breasts big but

perky, kinda like a 17-year-

Hoefflin: "mocked" his Stallone had final word

breasts reduced to their origi-nal size, according to Ms May-wood, who worked for Dr

Hoefflin for 17 years.
The affidavit also claims that Dr Hoefflin often faked nose surgery on Michael Jackson, the pop star, by changing the time on the surgery clocks. It accuses the surgeon of inspecting the anaesthetised Mr Jackson's penis and conclud-ing "you know, he's never used it", of examining Don John-son's genitals and asking how his former actress-wife, Mela-nie Griffith, could have been happy with them; and of teasing an unconscious Elizabeth Taylor about her lower torso. "What's a young guy doing with this old stuff?" he is alleged to have asked, possibly referring to Ms Taylor's then husband, Larry Fortensky.

ln a separate affidavit, Lydia Benjamin, Dr Hoefflin's former receptionist, claims he operated on her gratis numer-ous times and showed her off to prospective clients as a live model of what they could

The surgeon settled out of court with Ms Maywood, Ms Benjamin and two others in 1996, paying each of them fivefigure sums. Their complaints triggered an investigation by the California Medical Board. however, that may yet put him



Angie Everhart, Sylvester Stallone's former girlfriend and client of stars' surgeon

Judge weighs Clinton contempt charge

RESIDENT. Clinton received an minous warning yesterday that his legal oes may not be over when a judge said nat she is considering holding him in entempt for denying his relationship ith Monica Lewinsky.

With Mr Clinton acquitted by the mate on impeachment charges, Judge usan Webber Wright said that it was ow time to address the contempt issue rising from the Paula Jones sexual-harsment case in Arkansas. The President ould be fined, possibly heavily, if found i contempt in the civil case. Judges can so punish lying witnesses with prison,

but legal experts consider that to be out of the question for a sitting President.

Judge Wright attended the deposition hearing in January last year when Mr Clinton denied having sexual relations with Ms Lewinsky. Months later he admitted giving a false and misleading impression, but denied perjury. He argued that the definition of sexual relations used during the deposition did not include oral sex. Ms Lewinsky, however, swore that she had sexual activities with Mr Clinton that were covered by the definition.

By steadfastly refusing to admit that he lied, Mr Clinton may have given himself some protection from contempt of court. although he also denied having a "sexual

affair" with Ms Lewinsky, a term not defined during the deposition. Judge Wright has given lawyers until tomorrow to decide whether they want her to yield the case to another judge because of her tangential connection with the impeachment trial, in which her clerk gave an affidavit.

Mr Clinton's lawyers refused to comment, but they may argue that because Mrs Jones has settled her case out of court for \$850,000 (£520,000), no judge has the authority to hold him in contempt.

Lawyers for Mrs Jones said that Judge Wright, one of Mr Clinton's law students when he taught at the University of Arkansas, had been offended to discover that he

OJ's trophy auctioned

Los Angeles: In a coda to O.J. Simpson's murder trial, his most treasured possession has been auctioned for \$230,000 (£141,000), with the proceeds going to relatives of Nicole Brown and Ronald Goldman (Giles Whittell writes). He was found liable for their deaths in a civil trial. The Heisman Trophy, awarded to Mr Simpson as the top college-level American footballer of 1968, had been expected to fetch \$4 million.

Butcher's murdered wife left in freezer

New York: A retired butcher has been charged with murder after leaving his sons a note saying "Mom's in the freezer" Uames Bone writes). Salvatore Rosa, 75. was then found sitting in his underwear in his bloody bathtub, suffering from self-inflicted cuts to his neck and wrists.

Mr Salvatore told police at the weekend that Esther, 70, his wife of 52 years, was missing. Two searches of his house

in the affluent New Jersey suburb of Lyndhurst failed to find the body, even though investigators opened the basement meat-freezer. There were frozen items on top of the body." said John Santulli, the Bergen County prosecutor.

The couple's two sons joined the search and, after three days. Mr Salvatore left his note. Police said that he had apparently beaten his wife with a crowbar during a row.

Hillary confirms Senate ambition

FROM IAN BRODIE

HILLARY Clinton has given the strongest signal yet that she might take the unprecedented step of running for office next year while a sitting First Lady, despite misgivings among the powerful Jew-ish lobby that she is too

The President's wife said that she was "deeply gratified" by the large number of people who had encouraged her to consider seeking the Senate seat that will become vacant with the retirement of Dan-

iel Moynihan. In a brief statement, just four days after President Clinton's acquittal from impeachment, she said: "Until now I have not been able to do so, but I will give careful thought to a potential candidacy in order to reach a decision later this year." Mr Clinton, stoking speculation, declared his wife would be

a "terrific" senator. Even the cautious suggestion that Mrs Clinton was considering a Senate bid was enough to set off a media and political frenzy yesterday. She has set no timetable for a decision. but three of her friends confided that she had already begun returning calls to supporters. She wanted to know more about running a campaign and raising a warchest of up to \$15 million (£9.2 million).

By any standards, a Hillary-for-Senate race in New York would be a monster rumble. The state is renowned for raucous campaigns, usually brimming with insults and belligerence. Given the size of the Jewish vote, her declared support for the eventual creation of a Palestinian state - which goes beyond US policy - could count strongly against her.

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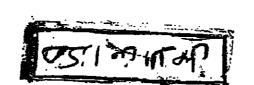
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Police prevent rally speech by Anwar's wife

FROM DAVID WATTS IN KUALA LUMPUR

head off an accelerating politi-cal drive by Wan Azizah, wife of Malaysia's deposed Deputy Prime Minister.

Three thousand people had gathered to hear her speak at a party outside Kota Kinabalu. the capital of East Malaysia. to mark the end of the Muslim fasting month, but police officers told her she must not address the meeting or hold a press conference.

The size of the crowd surprised even her organisers: We never expected such a turnout," one said, despite widespread support for her an area that feels little political affinity with the rest of the country; it has a large Christian native population.

in peninsular Malaysia thousands have been attracted to similar gatherings over the past few days. She has been using such gatherings and open houses to celebrate Chinese new year without interference because, until now, they were deemed untouchable as important religious or private social

Although yesterday's meeting was organised by the

POLICE moved yesterday to national Muslim youth organisation, once headed by her husband, she has been careful to use only the Social Justice Movement (ADIL), which she founded last December, to host most meetings.

Few doubt, however, that when the time comes she will head a political movement. There are rumours that she will challenge the Prime Minis-ter. Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad. in his own constituency. State elections are due to be called in Sabah at any time and Or Mahathir is due there today as part of an attempt to ensure that the ruling United National Malays Organisation makes a good showing.

That is seen as vital as a lead-in to a general election that must be held by the end of next year. It is precisely because Dr Mahathir has been losing credibility so quickly within the party organisation that Sabah is becoming a barometer for the Government Senior party officials boy-

Links

cotted Muslim religious celebrations hosted by Dr Mahathir recently, indicating his political decline even within his own circles.

As the Prime Minister tours the east, the trial of his former deputy resumes and the inquiry into the beating of Mr Anwar by police officers opens Both have put the Prime Minister on the defensive, particularly the beating inquiry, which he launched only after strong pressure. The inquiry report will be handed to the King rather than to the

After his Sabah visit, the Prime Minister will begin a tour of the whole country to try to restore his battered reputation in the wake of a disastrous meeting with Malaysian students in London in which they called for his resignation

the Chinese population -22 million people, or 30 per cent of the total population — Mr Anwar told them to ignore all government propaganda about the risk of new racial clashes in the country which, he said, was being used to divert attention from reform.



Wan Azizah: she has been using gatherings and private houses to put her case

WORLD IN BRIEF

Pakistan military courts are curbed

Islamabad: Pakistan's Supreme Court ruled yesterday that military trials cannot be used for cases against civilians, sparing 14 people from death sentences imposed in the newly established military courts. Such trials were "unconstitution al and without lawful authority", the court said. Any similar cases had to be transferred to anti-terrorist courts.

The Government set up the new military tribunals in the violence-racked Sindh province in November to try to reduce the rising crime rate. In military trials, defence lawyers are not allowed to call witnesses and cannot argue verbally. (AP)

Greenland plays safe

Copenhagen: Greenland's governing Siumut Social Demo-cratic Party lost three seats but remained the biggest single party in the home-rule parliament on the vast Arctic island after this week's local elections (Christopher Follett writes).
With all 27,500 votes counted from Tuesday's election. Siumut won 35 per cent support, taking 11 seats in the 31-member home-rule assembly in Nuuk, the capital. Greenland has a population of 55,000, the majority being Eskimos.

'Cybersex' stabbing

Perth: An Australian man was found guilty here of causing grievous bodily harm to his wife by stabbing her nine times because she had an Internet affair. Barry McCormack, 45, admitted in the Supreme Court of Western Australia that he became jealous of his wife's "cybersex" affair. He was found not guilty of a more serious charge of the attempted murder of Alison Garton, who spent several hours a night exchanging intimate e-mails with a man 2,500 miles away. (AFP)

Model's taxing task

Perth: A fee of A\$1 million (about £400,000) to supermodel Elle Mac-pherson, right, for a series of television commercials intended to promote Western Australia has been withheld amid concern that she may be avoiding tax, said a report in The Australian newspaper. The model's Australian publicist, Patti Mostyn, referred all queries to Macpherson's New York-based management, (AFP)



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Iraq braced for raids

Baghdad: Iraq expects a major US assault by April following Washington's warnings of punishment if Baghdad carries out its threats to attack Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. The US escalation started two days ago and will continue in coming weeks to prepare a new military strike against Iraq ... within 45 days at the most," said Babel, a newspaper run by President Saddam Hussein's son, Uday. (AFP)

Dangers of smoking

Columbia, Tennessee: A woman who allegedly wanted to teach her new husband a lesson about the dangers of smoking in bed has been charged with burning down their house. Linda Stewart, 39, put a lit cigarette on the couple's bed and left the house, police said. Her husband, Tim, was not home when the blaze started. When he returned, the house was: gutted. The couple were married two months ago. (AP)

Mugabe plans to use 'brute force' against opponents



Mugabe: facing a host of credible opponents

THE 21st of February Movement is to make its sole annual appearance on Sunday, as it does every year at this time in Zimbabwe, for its child members to perform stiff song-and-dance routines before their patron. President Mugabe, on his 75th birthday. The state-controlled Herald newspaper is planning its usual supplement to coin-

cide with the President's birthday. Companies pay for advertisements in which they congratulate "His Excellency". But the contrived adulation for the ageing former teacher, officially revered as "the most consistent and authentic revolutionary leader", is expected to be thinner than ever this year. At

Muted joy at President's birthday may herald

a crackdown, writes Jan Raath in Harare

Mugabe is set on a potentially bloody course as he attempts to retain power while the authoritarian regime he has built up over almost 20 years collapses in corruption and ineptitude. "He is totally overwhelmed and at a

loss how to get his country out of the mess that it is in precisely because of his own policies," said Welshman Ncube, a leading lawyer. "The only thing he has a plan for is how to retain power, and that is by brute force."

Zvimba, 40 miles west of Harare. Mr drawn from a sophisticated society of

young black professionals who have resisted his attempts to bludgeon or buy them into compliance. At the head is the national constitutional Association (NCA), a coalition of about 40 academic, human rights and professional organisations, backed by the powerful labour movement, which has been running a vigorous campaign for a new

There are plans for a political party to emerge from the NCA to challenge

has infuriated the leadership of Zanu (PF) with a stream of revelations about corruption and bungling.

Mr Mugabe has signalled his inten-

tion to crush the independent press.

with the arrest and torture last month of the editor and a reporter of the Zimbabwe Standard, and to confront the widely respected judiciary. There were signs of a fresh campaign this week in an unprecedented

series of tirades in the Herald against the independent press. "There will be worse to come," said John Makumbe, an outspoken political commentator. But Mr Mugabe's fundamental

weakness is that he has no power to shrinking influence, he is expected to

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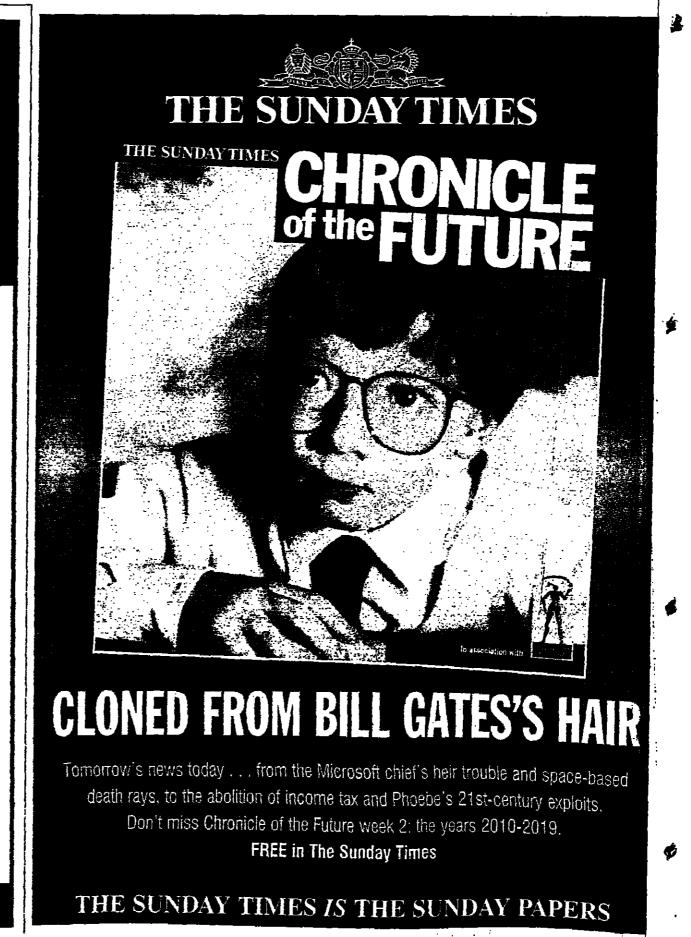
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JS stance on Kosovo talks and 'secret flight' infuriate diplomats

EUROPEAN diplomats close to the Kosovo talks warned America yesterday to "stop treating Serbia like Iraq", and told the Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) that it must drip its claims to independence if

heir comments disclosed the increasing dissent within the Contad Group, in which there is a rift over how best to coerce President Mlosevic of Yugoslavia into freeing his grip on the province. They also appeared to rule out the possibility of early Nato airstrikes

Tom Walker reports on the deepening

dissent within the Contact Group

"high noon" on Saturday. Certainly Germany and France are wary of the British and US enthusiasm for punitive strikes, and the French still argue that a full Contact Group meeting should be held be-

fore Nato bombers can be loosed. At the same time, Albanian delegates denounced the Rambouillet peace talks outside Paris as a circ-

Sainovic, the main Serbian negoti-ator, had flown to Belgrade with Chris Hill, the US mediator, to consult with President Milosevic. breaking the fundamental confinement rules of the conference.

The unilateral American move so distressed Wolfgang Petritsch. the European Union envoy and mediator, that he chased Mr Hill's

vain attempt to stop his aircraft tak- Britain yesterday, all of which had ing off for Belgrade.

We are extremely distressed that Rambouillet no longer appears to be the centre of the talks." a source close to the Albanian delegation said. "By recognising that Belgrade holds the key to the whole thing, the very idea of the conference is diminished."

The source said that Boris Majorsky, the Russian mediator, was tempted to leave Rambouillet after he heard about the Belgrade visit. The Russians made formal protests to America, France and

representatives on the secret Belgrade shuttle.

The Albanians complained that the infamous security annexes on which the conference's fate hinges have still not been delivered to the delegates. "They are obviously being rewritten, and if they are talking with Milosevic, it is obvious in whose favour they are being rewritten." the source said.

On the European diplomats discontent with the American approach, one official who watched Madeleine Albright's bellicose in-

terview on the French FR3 televi-sion channel last weekend said that he was embarrassed, by the US Secretary of State's "unfortunate" statement that, by not signing. the Kosovo peace deal, Mr Milosevic risked almost immediate Nato retaliation. You have to stop the Nato drums of war. From time to time you have to calm these people down a bit." he said, apparently

Cook, the Foreign Secretary. The official said that the Contact Group feared the increasing political power of the KLA, which he

also aiming his criticism at Robin

ised" Albanian diaspora that funds the guerrillas: "Both sides will have to renounce something and if the KLA does not renounce independence, then there will be no

Nato troops in Kosovo." He hoped that the ethnic Albanian negotiators at Rambouillet, and particularly the more moderate Kosovo leader, Ibrahim Rugova. would accept this principle, on the condition that the international community guaranteed a Kosovo review conference in three or, preferably, five years' time.

ALEXANDER JOE / AFF

Ethiopian force treks towards elusive enemy

The army is keen to fight but unclear where it is going, Robin Lodge writes from Adigrat, northern Ethiopia

oldiers were heading north owards Eritrea yesterday, apparently in preparation for a new offensive in the border zone of western and central Tigre, where heavy fighting took place last week.

Some 500 troops, most on foot, others packed into lorries bedecked with Ethiopian and Tigrean flags, were resting on the roadside during the heat of the day yesterday. Officers refused to allow interviews or photographs to be taken, but a few told fournalists they were heading for the front, but did not know exactly where.

A much larger force of about 5,000 men, all on foot, carrying grenade-launchers, machineguns and mortar shells, as well as shovels and stretcher, were heading for the borde, a few miles north of the regional centre of Adigrat, just before midnight the previous

ome said they were marchin towards the Badme front, about 100 miles to the northwet, where Ethiopia has been trying to retake about 180 schare miles of disputed miuntainous scrubland seized by Eritrea last May. The Eritreans have refused to withdriw from the territory, de-

spite numerous appeals to do so from the Organisation of African Unity, the UN Security Council and other international bodies, to allow for arbitration and the conclusion of a

bilateral border commission. But many of the soldiers, some of whom had been marching for the past 16 hours, said they had no idea where they were being sent. "We are just told to keep going. It is not for us to know where we are going, but we are ready to fight anywhere to defend our country against the Eritrean aggressor," said one 22-year-old

It seems likely that many of them were being sent to the much nearer front of Tsorona, where Eritrean and Ethiopian forces carried out intensive skirmishes later last week, as



the fighting around Badme

was dying down. Neither side made any significant advances, while both claimed the other side had suffered heavy casualties.

At an Ethiopian observation post, on a high ridge surround-ed by trenches, dugouts and piles of sandbags, an army major pointed out a hilltop 400 yards away from which he said the Eritreans had been driven back. They were now on the other side of the valley, some two miles away. The Eritrean positions were

impossible to make out in the broken terrain, which made any advance by either side extremely difficult, even with artillery there. Guns mounted at high points commanded a huge sweep of land, making troops advancing up the hillside vulnerable.

Behind the Ethiopian frontline, marked by several artillery pieces dug into rocky emplacements along a ridge of high ground, hundreds of troops busied themselves around mounds of stores, camouflaged lorries and ammunition dumps, apparently readying themselves for action. Two Russian-made self-propelled guns sat in a clearing, awaiting deployment in a strategic



Ethiopian infantry set off on a night march from Adigrat on their way to confront Eritrean forces on the front line near Tsorona

position. But for the time being all was quiet, only a single high column of dust some miles to the northwest betraying the detonation of an artillery shell. Soldiers said artillery exchanges were a daily occurrence, but that there has been no serious fighting since

On the Badme front, the atmosphere was entirely differ-

ent, with very little to suggest that a battle had taken place there only ten days earlier. The Eritreans said they had beaten back an Ethiopian offensive there, leaving thou-sands of Ethiopians dead and wounded on the battlefield with hundreds more taken prisoner. Journalists taken to the front by the Eritreans saw

dozens of dead Ethiopians and

talked to many more who had been taken prisoner.

The Ethiopians responded late to the Eritrean propaganda offensive, finally taking journalists to the front this week. On the Badme front they showed reporters a fourmile stretch of terrain they said they had retaken from the Britréans on the first day of hostilities on February 6.

But other than a few scorchvolved in the fighting. Now only a few dozen soldiers were marks left by shells there was little evidence of fighting. The to be seen in the area, some Ethiopians said they had burpatrolling, others strolling casied all the dead on the battleually about in small groups. field and that all their prisoners had been removed from the front to an undisclosed

location. The local command-

er, a colonel who refused to

give his name, would not say

how many troops had been in-

Civilians had been evacuated, their square, stone houses boarded up. A handful of farmers remained; they backed the military version of events, but their accounts were confused and contradictory.

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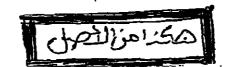
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French regret euro 'catastrophe'

Adam Sage reports from Paris on fading enthusiasm even among europhiles for the new currency

EUROPE'S new currency, the euro, was condemned yesterday as ridiculous and catastrophic by French europhiles who vaunted its launch just six weeks ago.

With the euro continuing to slip against the dollar, even the pro-European French Government agreed vesterday that public enthusiasm for the currency was weak. The confession marked a

sharp mood change since the curo was toasted on New Year's Day by champagne-sipping finance ministers from the II countries involved in

French leaders had hoped that the lavish launch party for the euro would give birth to a currency that was both



A brochure explaining

strong and popular. However, a month and a half later it is neither. Recently it has been trading at about \$1.12, compared with an initial \$1.19, prompting the strongly pro-European daily Le Monde to conclude: "The excitement has fallen away fast."

Scepticism among traders is reflected by that of the French public. The Finance Ministry believed that shoppers would turn en masse to euro cheques and credit cards at the start of the three-year transition period that will end with the disappearance of the franc. Instead, buyers have turned their backs on the currency. The Bank of France, for instance, said yesterday that euro transactions accounted for 0.03 per cent of the 14 million cheques written daily in the country.

According to the Commerce Ministry, no more than 15,000 people have paid for goods in euros since its launch. The europhile Parisian newspaper Libération said that the figures were ridiculously low. adding: "The volume jof transactions] in euros borders on the anecdotal."

Camille Jacquemont, a sen-ior executive with the supermarket group Prisunic, said: The public is shunning the euro. On sales of Fr25 billion (£2.5 billion) since the start of January, we must have cashed 400 cheques in euros.

"That's catastrophic when you consider the effort we made to train personnel, distribute calculators and label prices in both francs and eu-

"If the French do not start getting used to it today, they



A woman pays for her goods with euro notes at Flayosc, west of Cannes, during a week-long experiment to accustom people to the new currency

will have a terrible shock in notes are introduced, he said. Analysts say that the euro is no more popular in the other

ten countries participating in the new currency than it is in France. The French supermarket chain Carrefour has cashed Spanish or Italian stores, for example. Pierre-Antoine Delhommais, an economics commentator for Le Monde, said the euro's failure to win public approval helped to explain its poor showing on the international currency markets.

The euro is not able to inspire the faith and confidence of the people," he said. "Why French shops, but none in its should an American or Japa-

nese investor show less indifference than the population of euroland?"

The European Commission blames banks for the "homeopathic" use of euros across the zone now known as euroland. On Tuesday, it announced plans to investigate eight leading European banks for suscharges relating to the curren-

cy. The banks have decided to charge up to 1 or 2 per cent commission for accepting international payments in euros. a move that has prompted a

volley of criticism. However, pro-Europeans in Paris suggested yesterday that the Commission was using the banks as a scapegoat for the failure of its project. The French Commerce Ministry

said: "The euro seems very distant to people in France, a long way away from their daily



— The EU's home page http://europa.eu.lut/comm/ ag02/nome.htm — Exchange rates http://www.ecb.int/ — Central Bank

faces fresh fraud * claims

EDITH CRESSON, the European Commissioner was yesterday clinging to her job after an anti-fraue unit highlighted "irregular ities" at her department that may lead to crimina proceedings. Insisting tha she will not resign. Mme Cresson hit back with a claim that she was the vic tim of a German-inspired

Cresson

The latest row to engulf Mme Cresson came after the European Commission's anti-corruption unit Uclaf, asked a Belgian judge to investigate allegations relating to the Leonardo education programme run by her department. The unit said it had discovered a "considerable number of irregularities" in connection with Leonardo. and had asked a judge to instigate an inquiry.

Udar's report prompted a swift response from the Commission, which closed down the bureau responsible for the Leonardo programme and cancelled its £500 million contract with the private firm, Agenor, which ran the scheme. Agenor has been accused of overcharging the Com-mission, submitting false invoices and paying pri-vate "consultants" £2,000 a

day.

Mme Cresson is under growing pressure to step down, with at least 11 of her fellow commissioners reportedly determined (force her out of office.

Last month Mme Cre son was at the centre of the debate that led the Europe an Parliament to establish its anti-fraud committee which reports next month Mme Cresson was accused of employing friends in highly paid jobs in or con-nected to her department She retorted that she had employed her friends "be-

Yesterday French news papers gave prominence to her claim that Bonn wa orchestrating a plot to exact gerate waste in Brussels a part of its campaign to wil a reduction in its budge ary contribution.



Romanian police seize miners' march leader

FROM SEAN HILLEN IN BUCHAREST

ROMANIAN police yesterday broke up a march by thousands of protesting coalminers heading towards Bucharest their militant leader, after violent clashes

Cozma, who was sentenced this week to 18 years in prison for his role in the 1991 anti-reform riots that toppled the first post-Ceausescu Government. was arrested with 600 fellow pitmen by anti-terrorism agents as police waded in to the protesters near Stoenesti, 93 miles north of Bucharest.

More than 5,000 miners had swept past police roadblocks and headed towards the capital, where they intended to protest outside government offices. The miners' convoy of buses and cars outflanked successive makeshift roadblocks before police moved in at dawn. Scores of people, including civilians, were injured in the clashes.

"Cozma has been duly arrested after a squad of armed police moved into a crowd of miners after identifying him." said Constantin Dudy Iones-

cu, the Interior Minister. "We er march on Bucharest, which had to use force as we were attacked severely."

Coalminers from the Jiu Valpolitical protection under President Ceausescu, have been a thorn in the side of the current forms, which include the closure of loss-making pits. Last month Cozma, 47, led

nearly 15,000 miners on anoth-

was called off halfway only after talks between him and Radu Vasile, the Prime Minisa suspension of pit closures.

The miners set off again for Romania's Supreme Court passed sentenced on Cozma on Monday for his role in leading the miners who rampaged through Bucharest in 1991.



Ammer's view in Austria's Wiener Zeitung on the march of the miners, once allies of the former dictator, Ceausescu

Three die in Amman gun battle

Amman: Three Jordanians on trial for murder hijacked the police van driving them from court yesterday and exchanged gunfire with secu-rity forces. Police said one of the hijackers and two police

men were killed. The three men were facing charges of killing 12 people in separate incidents last year. Their victims included the charge d'affaires of the Iraqi Embassy in Amman.

The newly crowned King Abdullah, escorted by senior security aides, was at the main police station in Amman to follow up on the gunfight, a rare occurrence in

Before becoming King, Abdullah was a major-general in command of an elite commando unit responsible for internal security and the Royal Family's safety.

The three suspects succeeded in grabbing the guards' guns en route from the court to prison, after which the prison van overturned. Police reinforcements surrounded the van and exchanged gunfire with the men for two hours.

Key witness withholds blood scandal evidence

By Adam Sage

CONFUSION dominated the trial of three former ministers concerning their role in France's contaminated blood andal as a key witness refused to testify yesterday.

Claude Weisselberg, a former government adviser, was well placed to substantiate or invalidate ministerial claims that they were ignorant of the emerging Aids threat in the mid-1980s.

But Dr Weisselberg declined to give evidence because he is himself threatened with poisoning charges in connection with the distribution of HIV-infected blood to haemophiliacs and hospital patients in 1985.

His refusal was another blow to the heavily criticised trial of Laurent Fabius, the 52-year-old former Prime Minister, and his former Health Ministers, Georgina Dufoix, 55, and Edmond Hervé, 56. They are accused of criminal neoligence in allowing French blood banks to distribute contaminated products.

However, the newly created Court of Justice of the Republic. which was set up to judge ministers accused of wrong-doing in office, has failed to press the high-profile defendcording to the French media.

Christian Le Gunehec, the presiding judge, has been pilloried by the press for alleged gaffes, laziness and bad manners towards relatives of the seven victims who brought charges against the ministers. Last week, for instance, he

forgot to turn off his microphone before asking a fellow judge to remind him who Michel Garretta was. Dr Garretta is a central figure in the tainted-blood scandal and someone most of the rest of the French population could identify with ease.

Le Monde described the first week of the trial as "confusion and approximations". Judge Le Gunehec only won the approval of French newspapers when he announced on the first day of the trial that he would force recalcitrant witnesses to testify.

But yesterday, when Dr Weisselberg invoked the right to silence on the ground that he should not be asked to incriminate himself, the presiding judge concurred and then

The incident was significant, since the doctor was an adviser to M Hervé during the key period in the 1980s when French authorities collected blood from high-risk groups. including prisoners, and then failed to sterilise it.

Giving evidence last week,

M Hervé said he could not be

held responsible for the fail-

ures of his department, since

the "technical" decisions that led to widespread contaminations were taken by staff such as Dr Weisselberg. Of the three ministers, who are facing manslaughter charges that could bring jail sentences of up to five years.

M Hervé's defence appeared the weakest, commentators But the refusal of Dr Weisselberg to give evidence yester-day leaves the former Socialist

Health Minister's claims



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Love in the shadow of King Tut

The heir to the curse of the Carnarvons tells Anjana Ahuja how he has found happiness

seems preoccupied as he embarks on his second marriage at the Savoy chapel today, it would be charitable to sympathise. His family has alseady borne the brunt of two tmous curses.

His first marriage to Jayne Wilby collapsed in 1995 after six years and several photospreads in Hello! and OK!, invoking the now infamous curse of Hello! Doubtless he marriage to the glamorous clothes designer Fiona Aitken to go the same way. More worrying, perhaps, is the fact that the nuptials follow an expedition to Egypt, where Herbert, better known as Lord Porchester, heir to the Carnarvon lega-cy, retraced the steps of his great-grandfather into the Valley of the Kings.

This is where, in the sweltering heat of the African sun in 1922, Lord Carnarvon, with rics, designs and shapes our-1922. Lord Carnarvon, with the archaeologist Howard Carter, unearthed the tomb of Tutankhamun. As well as earning him worldwide fame. the 5th Earl was said to have Bbrought the wrath of the gods on the Carnarvon dynasty. The curse of Tutankhamun, it vas rumoured, would chase

opened tomb into the grave. wedding, at Highclere Castle, the family seat near Newbury. Lord Porchester, 42, who revisited the scene of his family's greatest triumph for a television documentary, does not seem particularly bothered by antagonistic spirits, even though his great-grandfather dropped dead within a year of his discovery. "The Ancient Egyptians promoted the myth

f George Reginald Oliv-er Molyneux Herbert but someone showed me this taking a toy from a child in a playground," she sighs. Sir piece of blue jewellery. I thought it was made in Taiwan or something. In fact, it was 3,000 years old!" Since their discovery in 1988, the artefacts have been on public display at Highdere.

These days Lord Porchester has more important things to worry about. Now that he no longer has shares in software companies - he is fascinated by technology - he is helping curse of Helio! Doubtless he will be careful not to allow his a venue for corporate entertaining) as well as "steering Fiona's direct-sales clothes business, Azur.

"Fiona describes the clothes as 'Harvey Nicks quality at direct-sales prices," he beams. They're classic, not cuttingedge. A suit sells for about £240, whereas in Jaeger it would sell for £800." (A Jaeger suit actually costs considerably less.) "We deal with the fabthe sartorial equivalent of Tupperware parties. He is, he agrees, remarkably busy. "The media has a rather irritating way of assuming that aristocrats have nothing better to do than sit around in big houses all day." he observes.

By this time Fiona, an alumall those connected with the na of St Paul's Girls' School and St Andrews University We meet five days before the and a former accountant, has arrived from London, an hour late. She breezes in, rubbing her hands to warm herself. She and her fiance make a fetching, if curious, couple. As befits a handsome aristocrat educated at Eton and Oxford. he is reserved but gracious, and, in tweed and brogues, dressed as if he is about to take a stroll around the estate's an-

cient cedars. Fiona, 34, encased in tai-



Lord Porchester, right, in Egypt

When we Egypt we were more worried about being shot than the curse of the Carnarvons'

graverobbing," he smiles, sip-ping coffee brought in quietly Maureen, Highclere's housekeeper. "I visited last November, exactly a year after that massacre in Luxor, and Fiona and I were more concerned about trigger-happy people with rifles than the curse. I think Fiona was worried that my arrival would be trumpeted, and that I would become an obvious target. I was also worried about falling down ladders into the tombs. Ha! You should have seen the

"As for great-grandfather, he was just careless. He got a mosquito bite but, being the typical laid-back Englishman, he refused treatment — even iodine. The books say he didn't even put antiseptic on it. He just thought he was going to get better." The bite turned septic, and the 5th Earl died of pneumonia in April 1923.

It is intriguing to learn that the heir to such a fabled name has derived most of his knowledge about his great-grandfather from books, rather than nights of storytelling in one of the castle's grand drawing rooms. He admits to mugging up on the Carnarvon story before travelling with the Channel 4 team, but repeatedly claims to know nothing about Egyptology. It wasn't even his idea to visit Egypt — Adrian Wiley, who manages and promotes the castle on behalf of Lord Carnarvon, thought the present family should re-estab-lish their coverable connec-

Lord Porchester, known as Geordie to friends and family. explains that he and his father feel distant from their ancestor, partly because his grandfather was superstitious and believed in the curse. "It wasn't until after he died that we discovered we had any antiquities here at all," he says. Grandfather had them locked up. I wasn't here when the cupboards were opened

lored turquoise jacket, black satin trousers and black highheeled boots, looks as though she might be on her way to cocktails in Mayfair. Natural ly, the clothes come from Azur ("You can put them in the washing machine, too," she chirps). She brings a dash of bright city chic to the pale drawing room, hung with family portraits and photographs of racehorses (Lord Porches-ter's father, Lord Carnaryon, is the Queen's racing manager). Even the couple's cars spell out the contrast - Fiona's red F-reg BMW looks positively racy next to Lord Porchester's sedate navy

By a happy coincidence, the couple met as Fiona was trying to raise money for her business. "I was attending an HHA [Historic Houses Association] dinner for a retiring executive manager at the end of 1996," Lord Porchester says. Most of the people there were old enough to be my grandfather but, amazingly, I found myself sitting next to this de lightful young lady. Fiona was there because, I think, she knew the chap who was retiring. I don't know if it was love at first sight but I certainly found her very attractive." The couple do not have any imme diate plans to start a family but spend a lot of time with Saoirse (pronounced "Seersha") and George, Lord Porchester's children from his first marriage.

They are also engaged in a long-running saga with Sir Benjamin Slade, Fiona's former boyfriend. The couple have been trying to persuade him to give up his shares in her company. Fiona has just lost a court battle with Sir Benjamin's former wife over Jasper, a dog with his own £50,000 trust fund. Flona claimed, unsuccessfully, that she was trying to rescue an illtreated animal. "Taking the dog away from me was like

Benjamin has rejected criticism by saying Jasper never belonged to Fiona, whom he has labelled a "gold-digger".

Still, Lord Porchester and Fiona are determined to enjoy their big day, a small London affair with family and close friends. They plan to spend the afternoon packing for their ten-day honeymoon. Lord Porchester is keeping the desti-nation secret. "It certainly won't be Egypt," he laughs.

To the Ends of the Earth, Channel 4, Monday, 8pm



In the eastle grounds, "Geordie" Porchester and his fiancée, the clothes designer Fiona Aitken — she brings a dash of city chic to Highelere

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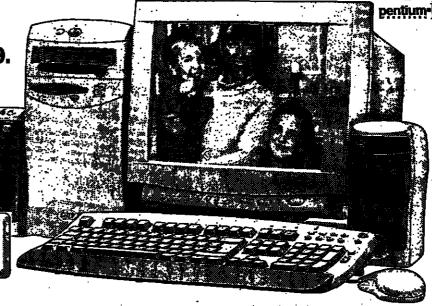
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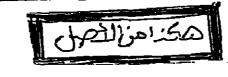
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Computer Active January 1999



Why good food is crucial



Dr Thomas Stuttaford reports on diseases of the large bowel; firm handshakes and arthritis; research into Alzheimer's; thyroid trouble and dementia: and the laws covering post mortems

iverticulosis and diverticulitis are common diseases but, as they afflict the large bowel, they are rarely talked about and the public knows little about them. When a famous actor collapsed with severe abdominal pain and a temperature at the Cannes Film Festival, it was rumoured that he had diverticulitis, but for all the term meant to the film buffs in the bars, they might just as well have been told that he was suffering from strongyloidiasis.

A diverticulum (diverticula when plural) is a small pouch-shaped protrusion of the intestinal lining which pushes through the outer muscular wall of the colon, the large bowel, forming a sac. When several diverticula are affecting the colon, the condition is known as diverticulosis, and when the tissue around the diverticulum becomes inflamed, as diverticulitis.

Long before the Cannes star collapsed he will have suffered from inexplicable abdominal pain, colic, wind and intermittent diarrhoea. Many patients with undiagnosed bowel symptoms are later found to have diverticulosis. which is often complicated by occasional attacks of mild diverticulitis. When debris and intestinal secretions collect for any length of time in the diverticulum, their presence causes

inflammation and symptoms not dissimilar to those of appendicitis, but not of course necessarily in the area over the appendix. As with appendicitis, the patient feels unwell, there is tenderness when the abdomen is pressed, pain, and a temperature.

The diagnosis of diverticulitis may be obvious when it is already known that the patient suffers from diverticulosis and it has been confirmed by barium X-ray or colonoscopy.

Colonoscopy is particularly useful when there is a need to find a source of

bleeding within the colon; even divertic-

gut may give way at its weak points, in

particular where the small arteries sup-

plying it go through the muscle layer.

It is at these points that the characteris-

tic diverticular sacs, with their narrow

openings, form.

Diet is all-important in preventing

diverticulosis and in controlling its

symptoms. In patients suffering symp-toms of diverticulosis, a high-fibre diet

is usually recommended initially. How-

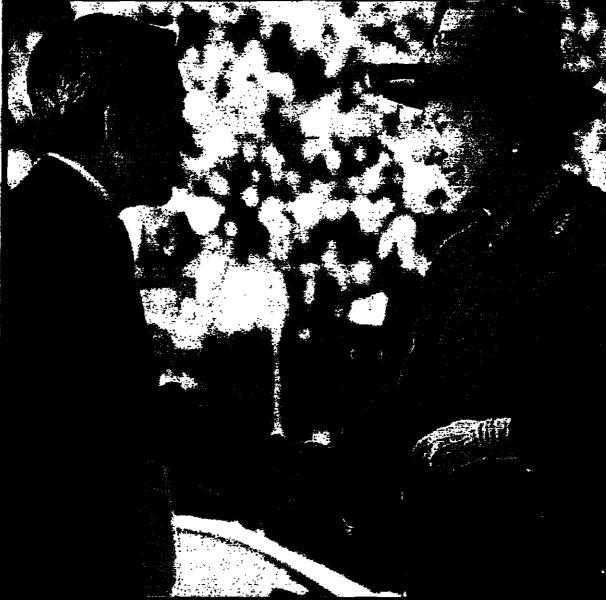
ever, some patients can be made worse

by this, and if this does happen it may

be necessary for them to return to a diet

that is more refined and with less

ulosis may be complicated by bleeding. It is always important to be certain that the patient isn't in fact suffering from appendicitis, an abscess, or colonic cancer. Doctors have puzzled for many years as to why in the UK more than half the population over 70 have diverticula, whereas even in extreme old age it is rarely seen in Africans. The accepted explanation is that the difference is related to diet, as the Africans' traditional food contains a much higher proportion of fibre than does the European. A large amount of fibre, such as is provided by porridge, breakfast cereals, beans and peas, keeps the walls of the colon apart when the gut is contracting and prevents the pressure rising. If



Emperor Akihito greets the Queen; a firm handshake, an attribute of many in public life, can later cause problems

Mild degrees of diverticulitis are treat-

ed with a light, mainly liquid diet and

antibiotics. Even after the symptoms

have subsided, the patient is advised to

continues to get worse, emergency sur-

oto's encephalitis is character-

ised by the same signs and

symptoms as Creutzfeldt-Ja-

kob disease, now often, if inac-

curately, referred to as "hu-

In both diseases, patients be

come progressively demented.

suffer a change of personality

and develop the staggering

cephalitis

tient also needs to be checked

regularly to make certain that

he or she is not suffering from

other auto-immune diseases

such as diabetes, Addison's

disease (adrenal failure) or an

inactive parathyroid gland.

Likewise, doctors must be

aware that Hashimoto's thy-

gait so graphically

illustrated by the television clip of

the BSE-afflicted

cow stumbling and

falling in the yard. There is one essen-

sponds rapidly to

high doses of ster-oids. Uncomplicat-

ed Hashimoto's

disease is treated

with lifelong thy-

roid replacement

therapy. The pa-

difference: Hashimoto's en-

gery may be necessary.

Auto-immune disease

that can cause dementia

HASHIMOTO'S thyroiditis for the interest is that Hashim-

In this

and BSE,

patients

become

more

demented

is one of the auto-immune dis-

eases that affects the thyroid

gland. In patients suffering

from such diseases, the body

tack tissue. Such diseases in-

clude rheumatoid arthritis

and some forms of diabetes.

enlarged,

thyroiditis develop

smooth but pain-

less thyroid gland

which, although

bigger than usual, is less active. By

the time they first see their doctor,

one in five is al-

ready suffering

from too little thy roid and nearly all

will suffer from hy-

pothyroidism soon-

er or later. The disease is more com-

mon in women

than in men, and most often

strikes those in the 30 to 50

age group.

Hashimoto's disease often

occurs in conjunction with oth-

er autoimmune diseases, but

one rare and unexpected com-plication is encephalitis. It has

recently attracted attention in

the Journal of Neurology,

Neurosurgery and Psychiatry and in the BMJ. The reason

open discussion with relatives.

and specific consent if there is

a suggestion that tissue from a

Patients with Hashimoto's

eacts to its own proteins and produces antibodies that at-

Long-term legacy of giving a strong handshake

THE hail-fellow-well-met person who looks you straight in the eye as he crushes your hand with a vigorous shake may get his comeuppance in later life. This apparently honest bonhomie may make such people ideally suited to a life in politics, evangelism or salesmanship but from middle age onwards they may suffer stiff, painful hand joints from osteoarthritis. The Journal of Arthritis and Rheumatism has recently reported on a study of osteoarthritis in Framingham, a small town in Massachusetts, where the population has been kept under regular review for more than a generation. The firm hand-shakers of 40 years ago now have an increased incidence of arthritic joints.
Osteoarthritis becomes progressively

more common with advancing age, and develops earlier in men than in women, but symptoms of it are not an inevitable consequence of ageing. Research last week into back pain, which is often a result of esteoarthritis, confirmed that there is an inherited basis to some cases of osteoarthritis. It affects all vertebrate animals other than bats and sloths, and even whales and dolphins, whose weight is supported by water. Though the ordinary wear and tear of life may not be as important a factor as once believed, damage or disease to a joint and excessive or aberrant use, particularly if repetitive, such as regal hand-shaking, could be a cause of osteoarthritis.

Osteoarthritis results from a loss of cartilage at the joint surfaces and subsequent damage to the surrounding bone. In the later stages the joint may become deformed, but the initial symptoms are of pain on movement and stiffness. The stiffness is worse in the mornings after a night in bed, but it also affects people after they have been sitting

Alzheimer's riddle

stay on a light diet for a few days and should not return to a high-fibre one for several weeks. Severe degrees of IRIS MURDOCH was as famed for her idiosyncratic diverticulitis require hospital admis-sion, drip-feeding and heavy doses of antibiotics. If, despite this, the patient punctuation and syntax as she was for her strong dislike of being edited. The copy editor (there was only one) who was brave enough to change her prose had previously worked • Further information: British Digestive Foundation, P.O. Box 251, Edgware, Middlesex, HA8 6HG. Please with me for many years. She told me about the outrage it

produced at the time. Carmen Callil, interviewed on the Today programme, con-firmed that such was the ire this provoked that it was the first and last time it ever happened Last year when the copy editor met Murdoch again, it was explained who she was, and the writer rewarded Callil with a sweet. uncomprehending smile

Professor John Bayley not only earned himself widespread admiration for the way wife, who suffered from Alzheimer's disease, but he also saved the State a lot of money. A survey reported in both the British Journal of Psychiatry and the British Medical Jour-

nal put the cost of caring for

each patient with Alzheimer's at between £2,000 and £4,000 a month; naturally the expense was commensurate with the severity of the disease. The medical treatment accounted for less than a third of this total. with the rest spent either on care or being an estimated fig-ure to cover loss of earnings of patients' carers. These patients were being treated at home the expense would have been immeasurably greater if they were admitted to hospital.

Genetic inheritance is only one of the factors that is likely to predispose people to Alzheimer's disease. Readers of The Times have, through a Christmas appeal, generously sub-scribed more than £60.090 to the Alzheimer's Research Trust. It will pay for a full PhD grant to be spent on inves-

There are suggestions that a diet low in fat and rich in vitamin E may have a protective role, while in women it seems that HRT could be beneficial. Keeping the mind active is im-

portant - The Times cross-

word will help — and non-ster-oidal anti-inflammatory drugs (the anti-rheumatic pills) maying he helpful. Happily, there is evidence that alcohol, even if taken years earlier, may help to keep Alzheimer's at bay. However, none of these factors is all-important — it seems likely that Alzheimer's is a multifactorial disease - hence the need for more research.

Studying possible causes of Alzheimer's is running in parallel with research into its treatment. Already drugs are available that will improve memory and help some of the other early symptoms of the disease in mild to moderate cases. But as yet nothing has been found that will stop or cure the underlying causes of the disease, which result in too little acetylcholine in the brain to achieve neurones and the adequate transmission of signals.

 Alzheimer's Research Trust. G.J. Livanos House, Granhams Road, Cambridge CB2 5LQ (01223 843899).



Iris Murdoch, afflicted with Alzheimer's diseasee, was cared for at home by her husband

roughage. Selecting the correct food may be a matter of trial and error. the pressure does rise, the wall of the

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roiditis may very occasionally changes in the thyroid.

THE very understandable upset of the Bristol parents Healing the wounds of grieving families who found that the hearts of their children, who died after cardiac surgery, had been re-tained for further examination illustrates the wide gap in un-derstanding that often exists between doctors and patients. It is now acknowledged that there needs to be far more

post-mortem examination should be saved. Often in the past, doctors have balked at seeking consent — not because they were being casual or un-feeling but because they have not wanted to increase the upset of people who were already distressed and sorrowing.

Regulations for retention of

tissue after a post mortem are

laid down in the Coroner's Rules, as amended in 1984. In patients who have died soon after cardiac surgery, it is standard practice to retain the heart so that more detailed examination of it can be carried out than would be possible at the post mortem itself.

In many hospitals, a pathologist reviews with the cardiolo-

gists, surgeons and the radiologists subsequent cases so that the findings from one patient are available to help another who may be awaiting surgery or a change of medicine.

The knowledge gained from post mortems has been invaluable in fashioning both surgical and medical treatment as the findings of pathologists

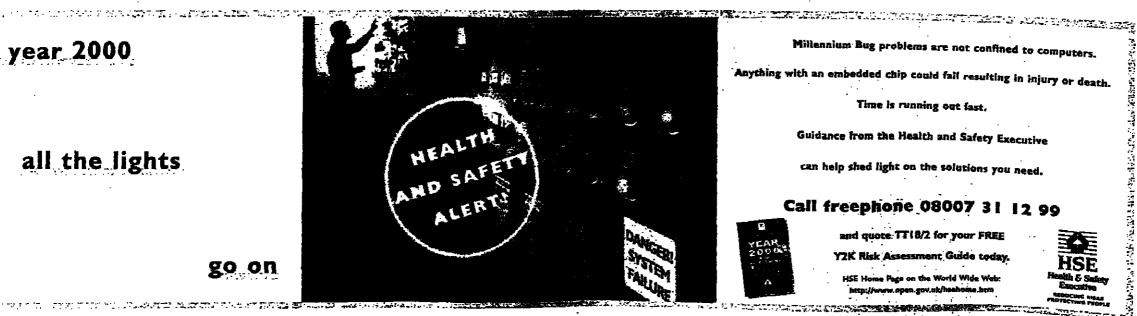
demonstrate the success or failure of each measure taken in the battle to save a life. In post mortems where the coroner is not involved, the usual practice now is for the written con-sent of relatives to be obtained for the retention of tissue.

17 List 10

This may be particularly important if there is any question of further litigation. Then the relevant tissues are available for later examination by medical representatives of litigants.

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go on



Awareness of limits is essential for children when they venture out into the wider world

How to raise a confident child.

yet the common assump-tion is that we should There is an unspoken rule that if you are caring, polite or thoughtful, you do not say "no". This is all-pervasive in most walks of life, from the in-timacy of home to the public sphere of politics. In my clinical work as a child psychotherapist, I often see families who have difficulty in saying "no", and this plays a great part in their predicament. I am also aware of how common this reluctance to say "no" is for my-self and my friends.

But by saying "yes" whenev-er possible and not saying "no" at appropriate times, we may be robbing ourselves and our loved ones of capabilities and resources; we may be restricting ourselves by not stretching our "emotional muscles". Saying "no" does not have to be a denial or a crushing of another person; in fact it can demonstrate a belief in the strength and the abilities of

On the whole, adults have a greater understanding than children, and children look to their parents to make sense of the world around them. This begins in infancy, with babies needing their parents to give meaning to their feelings. As the child gets older, the parents give him a picture not only of who he and they are, but of the world at large. The healthy toddler will refer to his parent when meeting new peonle to see if they are safe to interact with. He will use a parent as a base from which to explore and to get feedback about his activity.

If the responses to his behav-

iour are consistent, he gets a clearer view - a good idea of what is allowed and what is banned, what is safe or dangerous, what is frightening or not. No parent or adult is completely consistent, but a general pic-

ture does emerge for the child. Sanctions are important when you are trying to enforce your "no", but there is no recipe that works for everyone. If you have conviction about your stand, if you can be in tune with your child, generally an under-five will respect your word. Of course, you will need to back this up at times. There are many strategies that you can use, whether it is to reduce television time, to send your child to his room, to confiscate a favourite toy, to hold him physically when he is having a wobbly", to refuse to take him to the park if he misbehaves. It



In the second extract from her new book, child psychotherapist Asha Phillips explains how to set limits for toddlers and how to smooth the transition from home to school

is not the sanction itself that will matter but what is communicated through your behaviour. Heavy-handedness usually backfires, as does losing your temper, humiliating the child and getting into a battle

it is never helpful to lose your temper - behaviour that is out of control is frightening for both parent and child. But if at times you do or say something that you regret, as all parents do, it is not the end of the world. It can let the child know that you, too, are human, not a robot or an angel. This may allow him to see himself and his passionate feelings

in a kinder light. If you do go "over the top", an apology can also be positive. You are showing the child that you can consider what you have done. realise that it may have been wrong, ad-mit it and ask for forgiveness. That opens up these possibilities for him, too.

What matters is to

keep your function as an adult, to feel for your child and the state he is in, and to think about what is best for both of you. You do not have to explain every reason to him: it is sufficient that you know what you are doing. Many a parent of this generation can burden a child with lectures should Sanctions

TWO TO FIVE

help the child to learn, and cruelty only teaches him to be nasty. Your sanction should be aimed at helping him to be more thoughtful. You are likely to find out what works best by trial and error. As long as you have regard for yourself and for your child, just the effort of trying to make things better helps. Children are deeply appreciative of people who struggle on their behalf. They know that it is often easier to give in than to strive for a better solution.

From the child's perspec-



Hug for Mum: but learning to let go is vital

tive, limits may be infuriating but they are also like gates. keeping things safe. And there are other good reasons for limits. There are, of course, the obvious ones of physical safety. Then there are the numerous occasions, every day, when you need to set some gentle but firm limits that are not directly linked to safety but which help the child to develop a sense of security (for instance, having to sit down to eat). For a child to feel that somebody is pre-

pared to be firm for the sake of his safety helps to boost securi-The other important aspect of limits is that they help to develop an individual's resources. If somebody else does all the work, grants you your every whim, you become weaker and increasingly unable to cope with frustration. The well-meaning parent who wishes to spare the child every pain could be robbing him of developing ways to deal with difficulties. Here there is a judgment to make

> greed. A clear example of when to say "no" to a child comes at a moment of separation. He wants to stay with you but has to be with others. One regular complaint families is that their

about what is beara-

ble for the child and

about the difference

between need and

he clings and whines. What do you do with a child who screams, hangs on for dear life and looks as if he will die if

you leave? How time away from the parents is presented will determine how the child experiences the separation. There is also the crucial issue, so often raised, of whether you say goodbye or attempt to disap-

pear unnoticed. Many adults fool them-selves that young children are unaware of their surroundings - that out of sight means out of mind. Having worked with under-fives for many years. I can guarantee that this could not be farther from the truth. What is true, however, is that if children are told of an impending departure, they have a chance to object. Parents need to recognise and to accept these feelings, while sticking to their plan to leave.

▼o leave in a positive manner, with appropriate confidence that he is in good hands, is to reinforce the idea that he will be all right without you, that there are other peoole in the world who can also look after him. If you do not leave, you are, in effect, agreeing that only you can look after him, that the world at large is not safe.

Of course, the leaving has to be done thoughtfully. The length of time that he can manage without you also needs to be considered. It may be a slow process, but it has to begin if your child is to taste treats other than those you can offer. Similarly, how sleep is viewed and catered for communicates an image of what it is. If you feel that an empty bed is a treat, you are more likely to be firm with your child that he should sleep alone.

Allowing a child to be with you all night, every night, is not helpful to him. It prevents him from developing a sense of himself on his own. A child may only remember his fear at the time of going to bed, but the parent can think about it during the day. This offers an opportunity to talk about his fear and to think together of ways to tackle it before it has

Don't give in to guilt

t around the age of five, every child has to make the transition from home to school. Children in this phase have an enormous amount to master. Their response to rules, regulations and manners - all ars related to boundaries — is paramount importance. How they react to "no" will have a major impact on their capacity to settle, to make

mer's ridde

friends and to learn at school. After they start school, children are preoccupied with rules. There is both a need and a reluctance to follow them. Children will ask constantly "Am I allowed to .. ?". often to the irritation of their parents, who feel that they ought to know by now that. for instance, they do not need to ask to go to the toilet at home. It is as if they ask because they need to feel that they have permission, that they are observing a rule. It is a request for structure. It is also a way of managing the two different circles of home and school, leasing out what they can do where. Many a mother gets called by the

teacher's name and vice versa. During the school day, chil-dren have to listen to their teachers, to conform, to ob-serve more rules than there are at home and to fit in with the group. They may be suc-cessful at this and come home feeling very independent and rightly proud of their achievement. If this is not recognised at home and they are treated just as they were before they will feel as if their "growing up", still very precarious, is diminished. So they will often rebel. "Don't treat me like a baby" is a cry frequently heard in the primary school

This is when parents must say "no" to themselves, to their habit of seeing the child as still a baby at home, and to

recognise his progress. Children at this age will fluctuate from autonomy to reliance, from being reasonable

PRIMARY SCHOOL

to having a tantrum, from confidence to insecurity. As a parent, it is hard to get the balance right between supporting their independence and staying in touch with their needs without making them feel infantilised. Conflicts frequently arise around mealtimes, bedtime, how much television to watch, getting home-

work done, getting ready in the morning. At times we "no" to the child, at other times to our-As parents, we

start to expect and to demand that our child should comply with requests within a limited timespan. However, children, particularly at this age. seem to have a selective view of

time. When it is something that they want, the word they use is "now"; when they are asked to do something, it will be "later", which often means never. In saying "wait", we are asking them to hold on to their want, or to find ways to satisfy it themselves.

It is important that they should not wait for so long that the want disappears, or zest for life. But they do need to learn to manage the space

in between. Repeated simple experiences such as this make for the necessary distance between parent and child which

allows them separate lives. Making a stand in the family for treating each other with respect, for not being consistently unpleasant or rough. gives the child the means of coping at school with difficult feelings and behav-

iour. Saying "No. you cannot behave 'Don't towards me (or towards your sister or brother) in this treat me way" spurs them to find other means like a dealing with frustration or upbaby any set. Making a point of keeping your self-respect, of not allowing more, yourself as a par-Mummy' ent to be abused. sets an example. It

> lieve you are good enough not to be treated badly. This helps the child to do the same. If he gets teased, left out or picked on at school, he will have a model of how not to be the vic-Much of our difficulty in

shows that you be-

saying "no" stems from guilt We overcompensate for the feeling that we have, in some ways, deprived our child. This is many working women's experience. Even those who are not away for longer than the

Teenagers: make them feel secure by being strong and more flexible

TOMORROW

school day feet guilty, when they are at home, that their mind is on other issues — that they have to do the housework or to make phone calls.

It is hard not to fall in with the children's expectations that you should be totally available to them when you are together. This often results in the mother believing the child when he tells her that she is mean and nasty. She is then tempted to say "yes" rather than to face the child's criticisms. Similarly, fathers who work long hours and do not see much of their children tend to indulge them. Unfortunately, this is never a longterm answer to children's demands or to parents' worries.

uilt also tends to make us feel that our children should have many material possessions. Yet this may deprive the child of a necessary experience. When children want, they feel they need. As adults, we are better able to draw a distinction. It is through our attitude that the child learns to differentiate. Without this ability, he will always be at the mercy of wants that can never all be satisfied. Having and discarding possessions easily also him of the feeling that

anything is special.

Another benefit of not always getting what you want is the capacity to bear an empty space, a gap. If gaps are in-stantly filled, there is no room for creativity. By filling gaps instantly, we are agreeing with the child that not having is terrible — that he is lost without satisfaction. We are. in effect, saying that he is what he has. If a child links his importance to what he pos-sesses, his self-image will always be at risk.

 Saying No by Asha Phillips is published on March I by Faber, £8.99. Times readers can order this title for only E7.99 by calling The Times Bookshop on 0990 329454.

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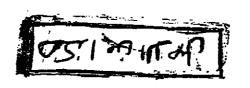
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CHANGING TIMES



Fresh veg and rotten arguments

Reason inclines me to trust

ministers in this GM food fight

es, I would — like the Prime Minister — eat genetically modified food. No, I would not want a moratorium on the planting of GM crops, nor do I believe the evidence so far justifies fears about the health risks from GM plants. Those are my prejudices. They seem to me as valid as anyone else's. And no. I'm not in receipt of a massive grant from Monsanto. After a week spent reading every view I can find, from every scientist who has been

consulted on genetically modified tomatoes, soya beans, last week. "We are desperate to find out." potatoes or cheese, I can only conclude that they are as prejudiced as I am. There are those who are convinced that we have embarked on a dangerous experiment that is running out of control. There are those who find nothing so far to suggest that GM is inherently more dangerous than any other artificial forms of agriculture or animal breeding. Deciding between them seems to depend as much on personal inclination as on the facts themselves.

One response - my own prejudice — is to recoil instinctively from the notion that one isolated laboratory experiment justifies the mass hysteria that threatens to engulf the issue. Headlines about Frankenstein food, with Tony Blair's picture modified (though not, one trusts, genetically) to resemble Boris Karloff as Frank-

seem an unhelpful way of advancing the argument I am against extreme measures, such as banning beef on the bone because of an infinitesimal risk to the public. And I am wary of conspiracy theories which conclude that because the Government has Cabinet committee it must be corruptly

food industry. After reading the views of Dr Arpad Pusztai, the scientist vhose work at the Rowett Institute in Aberdeen led to the debate, and the detailed response from the Health Minister involved, it seems to me that, for once, the Government is taking the sensible and cautious route, rather than being led, as so often, by public outcry. The wilder reactions have come from scientists rather than politicians. One of Dr Pusztai's supporters, a scientist, said last week that the Government had sacrificed the interests of public health "at the expense of allowing biotech companies to make money", and he accused it of being "enslaved to big corporations". This is the language of paranoia rather than sensible debate.

influenced in favour of the

So what does the evidence amount to? Dr Pusztai's experiment involved feeding a genemodified potato — not one that was on sale to the public — to rats. He found that within a very short period their brains had shrunk and their immune systems deteriorated. His experiment was, however, designed to examine the procedures for testing genetically modified foods rather than the specific effects of such products. We know little about the details of Dr Pusztai's experiment because it has not yet been written up in the scientif-

ic journals, although the findings are now to be published. Initially, the data was revealed on a World in Action television programme. It was this breach of protocol, that scientists should not speak to the media about unpublished research, which led to Dr Pusztai's suspension. The instilip James, still claims not to have read the full report, and is therefore unable to support or dissent from Dr Pusztai's findings. "We don't know what the results are," he said

This seems remarkable. If the institute charged with ment for the Government of the potential risks from GM food is unable to do so because one of its scientists reveals his findings on television rather than waiting for them to be eagues, what is the point of having an institute? One might as well have rival laboratories set up by Friends of the Earth and Monsanto, and let the results be judged by a TV panel.

Dr Pusztai is now convinced that he is the victim of "a cover-up". He believes his findings have been suppressed by the Government and the institute. Writing to one of his supporters, he says that an audit committee, called in by the institute to vet his prelimi-

nary findings, has "blackened" his 'blackened" name by disputing his conclusions. He was told by Professor James that he should write up his data as scientific papers, get them approved by the institute, then submit them for publication. That would seem to be accepted Pusztai, however, it

was tantamount to censorship. It would, he said, have taken six to eight months, and was merely a

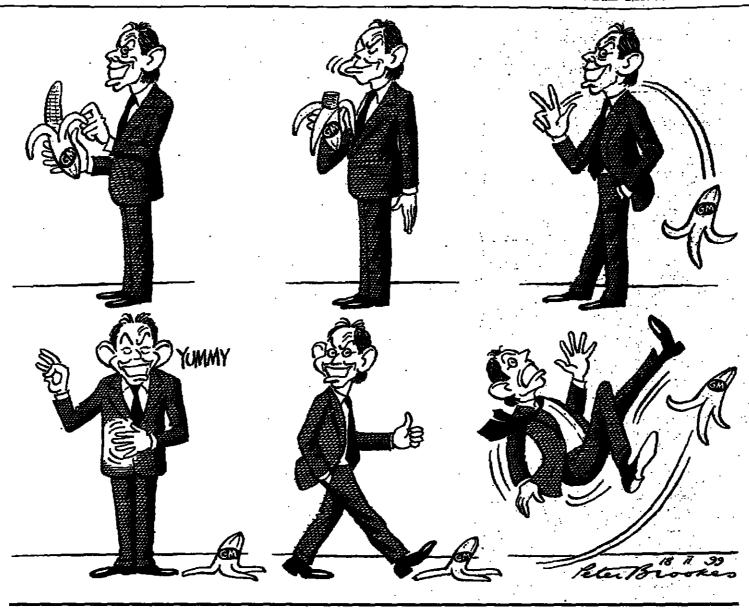
"delaying ploy".

🦳 his strikes me as intemperate. By contrast, Sam Galbraith, the Scottish Office Health Minister, accepted the audit committee's report, which included external experts and which concluded that fears about the adverse effects of GM potatoes were unfounded". I am unclear as to what Dr Pusztai expected him to do. Would it have been more responsible for the minister to ignore the institute's own audit committee report and reveal instead the results of one unquantified experiment? And would waiting six months for a proper assessment really have exposed the public to unacceptable risk?

Dr Pusztai has thrown open the debate to the Internet. He says that 30 scientists all over the world have been asked for their views on his report, and he is confident they will back him. This seems, at best, a haphazard way of determin ing so serious an issue. Who chose them? How balanced are they? What data will they have to go on? The Government's step-by-step approach seems eminently sensible.

But naturally, I am prejudiced. In favour of reason.

comment@the-times.co.uk



Hitler's long shadow

iming is everything in diplo-macy. It is one, of many, lessons Germany is prov-ing slow to learn. Earlier this week the country's Culture Minister, Michael Naumann, reproved Britain for its obsession with the Second World War. The new Social Democratic Government in Bonn is anxious to escape from the long shadow cast by Hitler. But the presence of a British jury in Belarus this week reminds us that the war has still left unfinished business. Herr Naumann's boss, the Chancellor Gerhard Schröder, has attempted to close the door on the past, protesting that his country is now "normal". But his hopes risk being undermined by his Government's

The Schröder Government's treatment of those who suffered as slave labourers under the Nazis raises questions about the honesty with which Germany is prepared to confront its past. The German Government unveiled a compensation package this week which was designed, in Herr Schröder's words, "to deal with its (Germany's) history in a responsible manner". But

responsible to whom?

attitude towards victims of the war

Germany has been stung into action after the launch of a series of lawsuits by former slave labourers in the United States. There were about ten million slave labourers and some half a million are still alive. They have never received their back-pay, let alone the compensation they deserve for their systematic ill-treatment. The companies which made use of their sweat, and blood, have also declined to apologise properly, denying their liability for years. These companies include some of Germany's industrial giants, household names with deep pockets but short memories. The companies' attitude compelled a coalition of elderly Jews and Eastem Europeans to go to law in the

United States to press their claims. The German companies responded not with grace, but pressure. They mounted a lobbying exercise on the German Chancellery to orchestrate a scheme that would protect the corporations and banks from the slave labourers' lawsuits. The approach which has been adopted was unveiled this week. Named the Hombach Plan, after the Chancellery minister who is the Mandelson to Herr Schröder's

Blair, it is an exercise in evasion, not

probity. It is flawed in conception

Germany's treatment of those who were Nazi slaves is still shameful,

says Michael Pinto-Duschinsky

It is not

'normal'

to ignore

the moral

and legal

claims of

PoWs

and inadequate in execution, an avoidance of responsibility rather.

than an honest settling of accounts. The methods being used to promote the Hombach Plan show an assertiveness that is already alarming Germany's eastern neigh-bours. Before the plan was unveiled, German interests tried to avoid a legal reckoning by attempting to threaten the American Government. The US Under-Secretary of State, Stuart Eizenstat, visited Bonn The State Department was given to understand that American trade

relations with Germany, and with

the entire European Union, would be damaged unless the American authorities intervened to block those lawyers representing the former

The American delegation was left in no doubt that Germany, as cur-rent President of the EU, is in a position to affect vital transatlantic trade treaties. The Germans asked President Clinton to issue an executive order to halt the proceed-

action lawsuits originated from the Washington law firm representing Siemens and Krupp, two of the companies guilty of the greatest violations of human rights in the war. Siemens helped to operate the copper mines at Bor, where most of the Hungarian Jewish workers who did not die during the course of their work were eventually taken on a death march and shot. At its Essen factory, Krupp kept French prisoners of war in dog-kennels, with five prisoners to a kennel. The firm refused to allow the Jewish slaves to use shelters during their air raids. Despite this history, the US State Department still agreed to set up a joint working party of US government lawyers and those representing the German Government to consider legal devices to protect these and other German companies.

The German Chancellery went as

far as to leak a paper during Bodo Hombach's recent visit to Washington stating that it expected the US Government to "take the necessary domestic steps in order to make it possible to deal with class actions appropriately

Having tried to strong-arm the US Administration, Germany has now sought to buy off its forgotten victims with token "humanitarian" payments. The Hombach Plan involves 12 German firms which have which payments will be given to those "most in need". But considering the number of

claimants, the projected compensation fund will provide disproportionatey small sums. It is even smaller than was originally expected. The firms concerned have offered \$2 billion. But the fund has been designed as a charitable trust which requires the companies to contribute only \$1.2 billion, with the balance coming in tax relief. Moreover, much of the money will be in the form of a "remembrance"

ings in the US courts.

The suggestion that the US compensation for the victims. I Administration interfere in the class estimate that the fund will secure only \$1,000 per survivor. It will be even less if the rights of victims' families are taken into account.

The assault on the US Government, and the holding manoeuvre against the victims, has been complemented by a third tactical strike from Germany. This is their "history offensive". German enterprises are pouring money into specially commissioned histories of their past. Selected "independent" historians are being given pay and exclusive access to company papers. Their work has the whiff of whitewash. The truth is not served by this cosy relationship between hired historians and their paymasters.

Three months ago, five historians commissioned by Deutsche Bank used The Times Literary Supplement to claim that it was the Nazi State, not the Deutsche Bank, which financed the I G Farben slave factory at Auschwitz. But the bank has now had to reveal it did.

It is still, however, trying to limit legitimate investigation of the past. Deutsche Bank's chairman, Dr Rolf Breuer, may have said that its embarassment was "definitely not the last revelation of this kind. But what seems like an admission of new openness is undermined by the maintenance of the same old secrecy. Historians of the Holocaust who recently asked to see the incriminating credit files from the hank's Katowice branch were told: that access "is given exclusively to the (bank's) historical commission".

hy the reticence? Deut sche Bank has been trying to acquire the succeeded in obtaining a declara-tion from the US State Department that the proposed takeover should be considered on its merits "and not burdened by other issues". These "other issues" are, of course, Deutsche Bank's role in the construction of Auschwitz and the matters that lie hidden in its restricted archives.

There are signs that some members and advisers of the Schröder Government would like to take a moral stand, on what is pre-eminent ly a moral issue. But they are rejuctant to confront the industrial behemoth. Some in Germany offer other pleas in mitigation. They claim that anti-Semitism in their country, and prejudice against East Europeans, is buried just beneath the surface of public life. They argue that such prejudices could easily re-emerge it a generous measure of compensation were agreed. But can prejudice ever be tackled by perpetuating injustice and ignorance?

If Germany is ever to be considered "normal", it must act normally. It is not "normal" to use state power to bully others into interfering with due process and the rule of law. It is not "normal" to evade legal and moral responsibilities to victims of totalitarian labour camps. It is not normal" to shield the past from scrutiny for commercial reasons.

German ministers may regret skewed views of the war. But they should take the beam out of their country's eye before objecting to the motes in others. They should make a start now by encouraging their own countrymen to honour, in full. the debts incurred during that terrible conflict.

comment@the-times.co.uk

True **Brits**

NATALIE IMBRUGLIA, a frail Australian chanteuse, has landed a senior Tory in trouble with the whips. As colleagues debated the House of Lords Bill on Tuesday evening, the party's constitutional frontmen were whooping it up at the Brit Awards. Dr Liam Fox, chief Tory spokesman, was trailing round after his old friend, who we two shiny statues at the ceremony.

At his side: Nigel Evans, another young funkster. After nipping into the chamber in late afternoon to mutter a few sage words on the hereditary principle, Evans and Fox mipped off to meet the rockers, missing the 9.30 vote, leaving Tony Benn to lead opposition to the Bill. The Tory effort (to speed the

introduction of Viscount Cranbourne's compromise of keeping 91 hereditary sorts) was lost. This was all too tempting," explained Evans at the ceremony. Stephen Twigg, that diligent young Blairite, was more dutiful, junking his Brits invitation in order to vote

• MY SYMPATHIES to Elizabeth Hurley. The actress (below) was enjoying a sojourn in the Four Seasons in Beverly Hills when she was woken by cockney singing. After complaining, the culprit was found to be Vincent Jones (below), the psychotic ball mangler now trying to become a god of the silver screen.



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What a blow

A SEXUAL action perfected by Monica Lewinsky lost Julian disclosed to me that when he toiled for the Oxford English Dictionary in the early 1970s he suggested a colloquial definition of oral sex.

This was blown out by his editor (far too smutty). It was as popular a term then as now," says Barnes. Robert Burchfield, then editor, is regretful: "I was going through a puritanical stage." Barnes, furious, stalked out; fed up with fact, he tried fiction.

● KATE MOSS can read. The model has started with fairytales, which helped her through what the small prints term her "drink and drugs hell" (an odd phrase: the hell probably seemed like heaven at the time). She was given C.S. Lewis's Chronicles of Namia by Marianne Faithfull. "After the whole heavy day, to get into bed and read these books. It was such a treat," she says. Speaking properly is lesson two.

'IT MUST HAVE BEEN A GREEK EMBASSY!



Caravan lark

CARAVANS have rarely quickened the ducal pulse, but this sorry lapse is to be corrected by the Duke of Northumberland. The trust snatcher wants to build a pleasing 12-acre caravan park in Beadnell, a snoozy coastal village in the county. The prospect has led 300 grumbling wretches to sign a petition.
"We don't mind quality tourism but caravans?" squeals one. If it's good enough for the duke . . .

● ALAN MILBURN, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, is on crutches, having damaged his ankle ligaments - after falling downstairs. I am assured he had only drunk tea.

Euro contest

JESSICA DOUGLAS-HOME has hired a disc jockey to referee in a debate on EMU in a Gloucestershire castle. The widow of the former Editor of this parish is bringing Rodney Leach, her hubbie and a Jardine Matheson director, hand a head with this Princetor, head-to-head with Win Bischoff, chairman of Schroders. "Apparent-ly," says Jessica "the DJ also has strong views, so it could be lively."

JASPER GERARD

'Why don't you do Danny Baker or Vanessa Feltz semi-clad on scrambler bikes, chasing bouncing inflatable sheep?" The editors would have re-

ad Robin Page, the presenter of One Man and his Dog, been wily enough, he could have saved his programme, which the BBC has decided to switch off after 23 years. Had he, for example, suggested sacrificing his own position for someone younger, more larky and less bucolic, he would have endeared himself to the commissioning editors.

He should have proposed getting rid of the sheepdogs too: Bring in something zippier. more racy, you know the sort of thing," he might have said. "And you don't want sheep any more - replace them with something zany to grab young viewers. Why don't you do Danny Baker or Dale Winton or even Vanessa Feltz semi-clad on scrambler bikes, chasing bouncing inflatable sheep? Squeeze it in after Noel's House Party on Saturday nights and you've got a winner."

moved their coloured-frame specs, chewed over the notion of Dale, Danny and Vanessa, then pronounced: "You've got something here. Let's develop it."

They would have been wrong. just as they are wrong to drop One Man and his Dog. They are jettisoning a programme with a following not only among the elasticated-waistband generation but also among students and the elusive urban youth market that the BBC so covets.

One Man and his Dog has become visual wallpaper in university campuses and bedsits in the same manner as the Teletubbies, which have earned themselves cult status. Students who have been up all night watch Tinky Winky, Dipsy, Laa Laa and Po in the morning as they come down from a night of excess. A programme for twoAndrew Yates

addled brains and many believe that trips through Teletubbyland are drug-induced. Noo-Noo. the tubbies' vacuum cleaner, is seen as a great inhaler and a large letter E once fell from the sky to crown Dipsy.

It is difficult to make the case for Robin Page as a drug icon with his mutton-chop whiskers. But the simplicity of the programme, its pastoral scenes and its unchanging format confer on it the status of a student classic television viewing where you

don't have to think. There are just three colours involved: the green of the pastures, and the black and white of the dogs and their sheep unless you include the purple cheeks of the presenter and his contestants. Like snooker, which year-olds is restful to their is also boosted by student view-

the state of the s

ing. One Man and His Dog can be watched with the volume turned down and the rock music at full blast, it can be no coincidence that the show's high point with eight million viewers was when it ran on from Pot Black, before the BBC moved it to a dead slot on a weekend

afternoon. Mr Page is not yet the cult figure that the programme's first presenter, Phil Drabble, became, but he has been at the job for only four years as opposed to Drabble's 14, And from Lowther in the Lakes down to Truro, the stocky farmer is greeted by locals with the enthusiasm that Labour politicians reserve for pop stars at the Brit Awards.

If the BBC had been less impetuous in its determination to win over the youth market by

getting rid of One Man and His Dog. it would have allowed Mr Page's fan club to burgeon in the very sector it is chasing. The BBC is misguided if it thinks the programme is not "relevant". To the urban youth agitating for rights to the countryside, this series offers a virtual right to roam with fabulous scenery and stereotypical cloth-capped countryfolk. And he doesn't have to stir from his sofa.

r Page is urging view-ers to write to the BBC and call for the decision to see off his programme to be reversed. He says the corporation's executives are arrogant, stupid and out of touch. "They don't seem to have any concept of anything outside London. They are obsessed with things that are

supposed to be trendy. He has a point. Although One Man and His Dog could hardly

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be described as trendy, it brings alive the issue of the moment the environment. And the views of those on the programme, though expressed with the eloquence of men accustomed to honing their conversation with collies, are paramount in the debate about the future of the countryside — even if they are diametrically opposed to the views commonly expressed by BBC executives.

Dale, Danny or Vanessa may well conform to the Television Centre model of presenter chic. But they lack what the young respect - authenticity. Rather than the genetically modified presenters favoured by the menopausal men in suits, why can't we have organic entertainment? Why should we put up with plastic when we can have have pure, if not new, wool?

andrew yates@the-times.co.uk



THE KURDISH WAY

Echoes from the violent past of a lost nation

The killings in Berlin, the storming of embassies and the running battles with police by Kurds in 20 cities across Europe are the worst street violence seen in Western capitals since the mass demonstrations against the Vietnam War. To most people they come as a shock. The fanaticism of teenagers prepared to set themselves alight suggests that even those Kurds who have lived long in the West still carry a fierce resentment that is almost stronger among the young than among those who left their homeland. There is also amazement that any single terrorist leader can command such blind following - and one that has already cost the lives of those who tried, foolishly, to storm the Israeli Consulate in the German capital.

What the uprising has also revealed, nowever, is widespread uncertainty about the history and aspirations of the Kurds. This ancient nation, now numbering some 20 million people, has never had a settled homeland of its own. A people is usually identified with a place, which in turn sets a framework for its history. The Kurds are spread over at least four countries of the Middle East, have no capital or government and do not even have a religious or symbolic focus that often holds together

other diasporas. For centuries they were noted mainly as mountain warriors and mercenaries, who lived on the edges of the Ottoman, Persian and Russian empires. Despite extended family ties and a strict code of tribal honour, they were notoriously quarrelsome: feuds often divided Kurdish communities with long-lasting consequences. Kurdish nationalism, a response largely to the formation of nation-states elsewhere, was not belped by this tradition. The Kurds, doughty fighters in the First World 'War, believed that they were promised autonomy by Woodrow Wilson. But the victors owed them nothing; and their dispersal left them at the mercy of the powers jostling for control of the strategic mountain passes and the oil in Iraq. By 1923. Western attitudes to Ataturk's Turkish Republic had changed; the promises of the Treaty of Sevres were forgotten.

The Kurdish sense of betrayal remained, however. Those Kurds incorporated in the new republic felt an injustice that was denied any expression. Ataturk, terrified that his fissiparous new nation would fall apart if the many ethnic groups of the old empire demanded special consideration, insisted that all were equal citizens of the new Turkey. Since the Second World War, this Kemalist legacy has hardened into a dogma. It has become the main stumbling block to a political accommodation with Turkey's 13 million Kurds.

Moderate Kurds have found every avenue for dialogue blocked. Successive Turkish governments have been brutally unfair in denying a people even the use of its own language. The dogmatic insistence on the unitary state neither fits modern conditions nor today's conventions on human and minority rights, as some Turkish politicians are at last beginning to understand. The question Kurds must therefore ask is whether they can still seek a civilised future in Turkey, or whether they should instead set their political sights on consolidating a tiny homeland in the safe haven of northern Iraq.

For the foreseeable future, Turkey must remain the only reasonable option. Northern Iraq is hardly viable as an independent state, as any government in Baghdad would try to crush it. Iran, equally, is unlikely to grant its 4.8 million Kurds meaningful autonomy. Turkey, aspiring to join the European Union, is at least a democracy and one amenable to Western opinion. The West must now insist that only real devolution will prevent a new cycle of violence and terrorism. A Turkey that agreed to such a change would be one in which Kurds could seek a future.

DRESS TO THE LEFT

An army is as strong as the political will behind it

Chief of the General Staff and head of the British Army, addressed the Royal United Services Institute on the Army's present and future. His upbeat message was neatly tailored to his elected masters' political sensitivities. The Strategic Defence Review has put the Army on a firm footing; waste is being cut; joint training with the other Services is proceeding apace; procurement be more representative, will base advancement on equal opportunities and merit, and adjust to domestic and European legislation on youth employment and working hours. So far, so New Labour, and entirely appropriate in a professional armed force adjusting to the cut of its political cloth.

True, certain problems will endure. The Army is still 5,000 under strength, while the outative commitment to Kosovo means that 41 per cent of it will be preparing for. conducting or winding down from operations - overstretch in anyone's language. At the same time, the world's major armed forces have to allocate most of their appropriation budgets and training time to retaining a war-fighting capability they will use more rarely, and which is therefore increasingly difficult to justify. If all troops do is peacekeeping, why equip them for anything else?

Sir Roger emphasised that Britain, too. must be able to fight a high-intensity war. He was right. Increasing global instability makes all the more important a skill which, once lost, is unlikely to be regained. Yet he was also implicitly highlighting a future difficulty. The defence budget is

Yesterday General Sir Roger Wheeler, the unlikely to rise. Indeed, it will be hard to maintain its present share in the face of this Government's preoccupation with social issues, and the visceral dislike much of its constituency feels for the Armed Forces. Yet retaining that capability will be increasingly expensive, as the shelf-life of each technological innovation shortens and the costs of research and development soar - magnified by the Chancellor's

> The focus of the generally successful Strategic Defence Review was increasing Britain's rapid response capability. But the projection of force is not simply a function of capability; it is primarily a function of political will. There is little purpose in possessing a Rapid Reaction Force if the Government is unwilling to react. Soon this Government will face the first real test of whether it possesses that will.

> The threat of force has driven Kosovo's belligerents to the negotiating table at Rambouillet, and kept them there. It is also the stick to be waved should they fail to sign up to the Contact Group plan by the Saturday deadline. If they sign, 8,000 British troops will be deployed. If the parties prove intractable, the Government says it will use air power to coerce compliance - a tool which even the prospective targets know reflects a lack of will not the presence of it. Any attempt to move the Saturday deadline, or to haver on the issue of deploying a ground force, will demonstrate that neither Nato nor this Government is to be taken seriously. The Review means that the Armed Forces are ready for the new millennium. The Government has yet to prove likewise.

PRIDE AND PROMISE

Let ministers eat cheese for their country

The boundaries of Britain's regions have been chopping and changing ever since King Alfred burnt his cakes. Where people once paid homage to the rulers of Mercia, Wessex and Deira, they now watch programmes pumped out by the empires of Carlton, Granada, Meridien and Westcountry. Where men and women once belonged to the local hundred, they now support a distant football team. Yet in this homogenised society, the spirit of regionalism is slowly being rejuvenated on our

plates and in our glasses. The plodding, formulaic reorganisation of local government was reflected by the rise of plastic, processed slabs, passed off as cheese. Burke's little platoons and Britain's cheese platters suffered the same fate, harmonised by Whitehall's heavy hand. Bakewell's tarts, Cumberland's sausages and Cornwall's pasties began to emanate from industrial estates around London. Imported beers were refreshing parts of the country that only local brews

had reached. Now the high calorie cavalry has arrived. Yesterday the Government pub-lished a map of Britain, showing the deployment of scores of cheeses, amassed and ready for action. Tony Blair might fear the preponderance of blue - Shropshire, Stilton, Wensleydale, Buxton - only offset by Traditional Red Leicester, Red Windsor and a little-known brand called Ashdown Foresters. Yet this plucky group, the Few of

the cheese board, have a noble cause — to restore the variety of British cheese on the nation's and foreigners' palates.

Their allies are local brews. Regional brewers, breaking out from a defensive laager, have put up a bitter resistance to the onslaught of mass-marketed beers. Sounding like the codenames of special agents - Old Speckled Hen in Abingdon, Tiger in Leicester, Double Dragon in Wales — these beers are infusing national culture. Even down in the Rover's Return, regulars can enjoy a pint of the local Newton and Ridley.

This army's greatest enemy does not lurk underneath the golden arches, but in tandoori restaurants. This is the ubiquitous chicken tikka masala - CTM to its fans, who have turned this English curry into Britain's most popular dish. The roll-call of victims of the Battle of Masala was long and horrendous: Aylesbury duck, Dover sole, Sussex pond were all turned into mincemeat. Others; like Lancashire hotpot and Welsh rarebit, were severely battered, and now recuperate in London's gentlemen's clubs.

The Prime Minister, a passionate advocate of regional identity, should now do his bit and eat for victory. For the man who is giving London a mayor and has set up a Scottish Parliament, there is an obvious choice of bitter and cheese filling for beer and sandwiches at No 10: London Pride and Celtic Promise.

TERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

'minority' voters

From Mr Julian Brazier, MP for Canterbury (Conservative)

Sir, In his article, "Try Enfield, Mr Hague, not Texas" (February 12), Tim Hames attacks William Hague's defence of marriage as a vote-loser. This simply ignores the facts.

According to figures provided by the House of Commons Library, a child born ten years ago to a married couple has an 81 per cent chance of its parents still being married today. In contrast, such a child born to cohabitees, who did not subsequently marry, has an 85 per cent chance that its parents have already split. Yet the pivot of the speech by Mr Portillo at the 1997 party conference, which Mr Hames applauds, was that cohabitation should be treated as equivalent

Of course, libertarians like Mr Harnes could sweep aside on electoral grounds the large body of evidence that children do best when raised by married couples in terms of performance at school and at work and in keeping out of crime - after all, children don't have votes. What cannot be ignored, however, is the spiralling economic cost of family breakdown. For all the efforts of Mr Blair's Government, three fifths of single-parent families are wholly or mainly dependent on the State.

As divorce and illegitimacy increase, so the burden on the State increases. How long can any country remain healthy if an ever-increasing proportion of its children are reared in dependency?

Yours faithfully, JULIAN BRAZIER House of Commons. February 14.

From Dr Aidan Rankin

Sir, What Mr Hames calls "social pluralism" has brought poverty (emotional and material) to many children who grow up in broken homes. It has increased welfare spending, as the social services take the place of the extended family.

Far from liberating individuals, the permissive society has created new insecurities and constraints. Compassionate Conservatives should note that family and community breakdown have affected disproportionately our poorest citizens. The tradi-tions of self-help, which gave character and hope to working-class communities, have been undermined by social engineers from more privileged

Equally questionable is Mr Hames's belief that a vast new middle class has been liberated and liberalised by access to higher education. I find a far greater level of independent thought amongst friends who have never attended university. Those who have seem to feel duty-bound to adopt "correct" opinions on radical feminism, abortion, gay rights and equal opportunities. This cult of correctness is surely more dangerous to personal freedom than old-fashioned prejudice.

Most of the electorate is ageing, non-metropolitan, unimpressed by fashion and suspicious of trendy social theories. It is with them that the Conservative Party should reconnect. In so doing it would connect more effectively with ethnic minorities, too, for I believe it is within black and Asian communities that ideas of family and personal responsibility

Yours faithfully. AIDAN RANKIN, Flat K, Guilford Court, 51 Guilford Street, WCIN IES. aidanr@dircon.co.uk February 15.

From Mr Alan Clark, MP for Kensington and Chelsea (Conservative)

Sir, Short of recommending the legalisation of cannabis and that the unfortunate Mr Portillo be rebranded as "Mike", the advice offered the Tory party by Tim Hames contained practically every modish cliche that has been around since the mid-

Eighties. The kindest word for Mr Hames's electoral arithmetic is "revisionist"! Even supposing that "minorities" do comprise one third of the electorate (itself a highly dubious, and unsup-ported, statistic), and that every single mother, homosexual and black man were persuaded to vote Conservative (a pretty far-reaching assumption), this would still leave us in a minority at the polling booth of two to one.

Yours etc. ALAN CLARK. House of Commons. February 14.

Over but not out From Mr Alan J. Moorse

Sir. I fear that those who state that Morse has now ceased to have rele-

vance as a means of communication are a little premature in their pronouncements (letters, February 12). I seem to recall that Morse was used in an emergency situation in at

least one of the Star Trek episodes; the exact date escapes me, but it was/will be some time in the 23rd century. Yours, but with no connection,

ALAN MOORSE, Acom Cottage. Ansty, Salisbury. Wiltshire SP3 5QB. February 12

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Hague's quest for Britain's 'dated view' of Germany

From Mr Edmund Wilson

Sir, The German Culture Minister, Michael Naumann, who criticised the attitude of Britain to his country (report, February 15), was surely echoing the views of many Britons living in continental Europe.

I am old enough to remember the flames as Liverpool burnt in the Blitz and the intense hatred we were all rightly encouraged to feel towards Mr Hitler and his gang. My father's gen-eration fought valiantly to erase Nazism from the face of Europe. Herr Lafontaine and his generation have striven as valiantly in their own country to stamp out what was left of it in the years since the war.

Germans now have every reason to feel hurt and indignant at the gibes of the popular press in Britain and have earned the right to say so. I have lived and worked in Switzerland, together with English, French, Germans and Italians, for 30 years and am ashamed that, alone among these nationalities, my own is still fanning the flames of national hatred.

Britons should wake up to realise that their material, social, cultural and democratic values are closer to those of modern Germany than to any other country in the world.

Yours faithfully, EDMUND WILSON, 12 Chemin du Marais, 1297 Founex, Vaud, Switzerland. February 15.

From Mr David Taylor

Sir, While the comments of Herr Naumann may cause some resentment in this country, it is, sadly, something that needed to be said.

Nobody now involved in politics in Germany took part in the Second World War and most of them were not even born in 1939. Furthermore, no country could have done more to redeem the shame of its past than Germany. It is now a respectable, prosperous nation that deserves the respect of us all.

The comments by some tabloid newspapers, political commentators, MPs and journalists are not only disgraceful but positively nauseating, and attempts by some irresponsible newspapers to associate the Nazi regime with present-day German foot-

ball teams should surely be illegal. I trust that Herr Naumann's comments will not go unnoticed and there will be no repeat of some of the nationalistic claptrap which I believe does nothing but stir up hatred towards a friendly country.

Yours faithfully. DAVID TAYLOR, 20 Chepstow Drive. Bletchley, Milton Keynes MK3 5NB. dtaylor657@aol.com February 15.

From Mr Alex Harrison

Sir, Hardly a night passes without German television showing a programme about Hitler, the war, or the

There have been series on Hitlers Helfer (Goebbels, Hess, etc), Hitlers Krieger (Rommel, Keitel, etc), Sol-daten für Hütler (the Wehrmacht) and even their latest series on 100 years of Germany history seems mostly about the Nazis. There have been many other programmes about the period.

The Germans' wish to draw a line under the past may stem not so much from hearing about the war from other people but from themselves.

Yours faithfully, ALEX HARRISON, 205 Newton Road, Bedworth, Warwickshire CV12 8QQ. February 15.

From Mrs Evelyn Hornig Sir, Germany's Culture Minister has

come to terms with his country's past. For many of us it has been more difficult.

My mother, now 89, has never come to terms with losing her mother in the most dreadful conditions in Auschwitz. My brother and I grew up without grandparents and with virtually no extended family, or the security that brings.

We are still living with the repercussions of the war, however much Mr Naumann would like us to

forget it. Yours faithfully, EVELYN HORNIG, 171 Hampstead Way, Hampstead Garden Suburb. London NWII 7YA. February 15.

Management of failed schools

From the Chairman of CfBT Education Services

Sir, As you report today, the Centre the three private companies shortlisted to manage the Kings' Manor School in Guildford. It was not chosen. Proud as I am of our organisation, it is difficult to blame the selection panel.

Like 3E's Enterprises, who were elected for the project, CfBT is a charity, whose surpluses, if any, are used for educational development projects. We therefore avoided the objection that we would run the school for private profit. But I would be the first to admit that CfBT's proposals were not really compliant with the terms of the competition.

As a former secondary head, I know that any school risks failure without a clear chain of authority and responsibility for decision-making. That chain at Kings' Manor is split and will not clearly be in the hands of the chosen organisation. Even the DIEE seems uncertain whether the plan is

sultancy. What is clear is that the private company will carry the can if the project fails. WICETE

for a management contract or a con-

standable. Balancing political, managerial, financial, parental and local considerations is never easy and no one can run an effective school without the full-hearted support of its teachers. But if the Government is going further down the road of private involvement in failing schools. as it seems, then these are the issues that need to be addressed.

We shall hope to take part in any new development, but one of the advantages of running an organisation like CfBT, with no shareholders to satisfy, is that, if the King is somewhat underdressed, we are at liberty to say so.

Yours faithfully, ANDREW STUART, Chairman, CfBT Education Services, 1 The Chambers. East Street, Reading RG1 4JD. February 9.

Minimum Wage Act

From the Assistant Director of Community Service Volunteers

Sir, Like the Reverend David Weekes (letter, February 5), CSV has lobbied the Government to make sure that the National Minimum Wage Act does not threaten the work of volunteers. Our understanding of the Act is dif-ferent from his. Following discussions with CSV and others, the Government passed an amendment giving volunteers exemption from the provisions of the Act

Importantly, it recognises the need for full-time volunteers to be provided with accommodation, food and reasonable expenses. Subsistence payments are acceptable provided that volunteers have been placed "by a charity" and that they volunteer with "a charity, voluntary organisation,

Zimbabwe in ruins

From Mr Barrie Milnes

Sir, In the light of the current fashion for ostentatious displays of remorsefor past transgressions, real or imagined, I have been expecting some sign of regret from those people -- they know who they are - who strived so assiduously in pursuit of policies that led inexorably to the destruction of civilised, responsible rule in that wonderful country, formerly called Rhodesia but now, appropriately, named after a pile of ruins (leading article, February 9; letter, February 11).

So far, nothing. One must conclude that the proponents of one man, one vote, one time, are satisfied with the results of their endeavours,

Yours faithfully. BARRIE MILNES, 19 Stammore Court. Canterbury, Kent CT1 3DS, February 13.

tutory body". Sensibly, the main proviso is that they give their time freely and are not bound by a contract. One of the special characteristics of volunteers is their freedom to give their time to help others and, conversely, to stop at any

associated fund-raising body, or sta-

time if they so wish. Voluntary and statutory organisations have a responsibility to ensure that they treat volunteers properly and fairly. The National Minimum Wage Act seems to provide adequate provision for full and part-time volunteers whilst seeking to protect those who may otherwise be exploited.

Yours faithfully, REBECCA RENDLE. Assistant Director, CSV (Community Service Volunteers), 237 Pentonville Road, NI 9NJ. February 6.

Brit-spotting

From Mr Simon Cave

Sir. In her account of her son's purchase in Poland of half-a-dozen roses fletter, February 6; see also letters, February 13], Mrs Tuliola Tybulewicz gives us only half the story.

What did he do next - carry the roses with blooms uppermost, which would certainly have continued to brand him an Englishman? Or did he carry them Polish-fashion - ie, upside down, as in many Eastern European countries, with the blooms hanging down?

Yours etc, SIMON CAVE, Watergate, 34 Ham Common, Richmond, Surrey TWI0 7JG. February 7.

Letters may be faxed to 0171-782 5046. c-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk

Call for inquiry on Gulf War illness

From Colonel T. H. English. Controller Welfare, The Royal British Legion, and others

Sir, Negative publicity following the publication in January of the initial findings of two medical studies that have discounted the existence of Gulf War syndrome is causing alarm among veterans and serious concern for The Royal British Legion and the

Gulf War parliamentary group. Our fear is that negative publicity is masking what we believe to be the true significance of the findings, which show that Cull veterans are suffering from similar complaints to their counterparts in other conflicts. but they are affected significantly more often by disorders of unknown

The Legion is still waiting for a response from the Prime Minister to its demand for a public inquiry into Gulf War illnesses, and the need for one is ever more urgent in the light of the results of the medical studies announced by Professor Simon Wessely of King's College London and the Ministry of Defence's own medical

assessment programme. The Legion and the Gulf War group have always understood that an independent inquiry was needed to show why those who served in the Gulf are more unwell than personnel with similar symptoms who served in other areas, and if the substances to which they were uniquely exposed have had a direct bearing on their ill-nesses. We have always been open-minded about the underlying causes of the many illnesses reported, and share the veterans' grave concerns that publicity about the absence of a syndrome could obscure the full ex-

tent and seriousness of their ill-health. The country owes assurances to the veterans, and to those who may be called upon to serve in the future, that their health will be safeguarded and that the Ministry of Defence will look after them when they are injured or unwell because of their service.

The time for decisive action is now. For many it is already too late. Yours sincerely, TERRY ENGLISH, Controller Welfare. The Royal British Legion. BURNHAM, MAR. MICHAEL MATES. MORRIS of MANCHESTER. PAUL TYLER, The Royal British Legion. 48 Pall Mall, SWIY 5JY.

False impressions

February 17.

From Mr H. T. Fleming Sir, The Vanessa Show has been criticised for having "fake guests" (letters.

February 13). Why all the fuss? For years we have been subjected to take laughter in our television shows — to my mind a much more odious procedure.

Yours faithfully. H. T. FLEMING. Highways. 13 Cooper Crescent, Enniskillen, Co Fermanagh BT74 6DQ.

February 15.

From Mr Edward Thomas Sir. Some three years ago, in company with colleagues from the Cam-paign for Courtesy, I took part in a television talk show. Everything seemed authentic enough: the studios at Wembley, the set, technicians and cameramen. I had no reason to be suspicious of the researcher to whom I

had spoken on the telephone.

But now my confidence is shaken. How can I be sure that the charming hostess of the programme was a lady called Esther Rantzen and not an impostor culled from a casting directory? I shall not rest until my doubts are dispelled.

Yours truly, EDWARD THOMAS, Flat 4, 21 Jevington Gardens Eastbourne, East Sussex BN21 4HR. February 12.

Soothing tones

From Mr Charles Hennessy

Sir. How can it be that, when I telephone a company, whatever its line of business or location, after negotiating the usual irritating layers of recorded voices I invariably end up being placated by the same nice lady in Glasgow?

Yours faithfully, CHARLES HENNESSY, Flat 29. 147 Cromwell Road, SW7 4DW. February 17.

Token gesture

From Miss Lizzie Broughton

Sir, I saw Mr Bailey's letter in The Times today. On Sunday my mother made ME go round all the tables and bins in the cafe at the Science Museum to look for Free Books for Schools tokens.

They were not even for my school, but the school where she teaches. Yours faithfully, LIZZIE BROUGHTON (aged 10), 27 Walpole Road,

4

Twickenham TW2 5SN.

February 16.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE February 17: Mr Justice Jackson was received by The Queen upon his appointment as a Justice of the High Court when Her Majesty Knighthood and invested him with the Insignia of a Knight Bachelor.

His Excellency Mr Roy Warren Blackbeard was received in audi-ence by The Queen today and presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Commission as High Commissioner for Botswana in

Mrs Blackbeard was also received by Her Majesty. Mr Christopher Hum (Deputy Under Secretary and Chief Clerk, Foreign and Commonwealth Of-

fice) was present.

The following were received in audience by The Queen and kissed hands upon their appointment as Her Majesty's Ambassadors: Sir Ivan Callan (Muscat), Mr Anthony Layden (Rabat), Mr Peter Ford (Bahrain).

Lady Callan and Mrs Layden were also received by The Queen. Mr Peter Smith was received in audience by The Queen and kissed hands upon his appointment as Governor to the Cayman Islands. Mrs Smith was also received by

By command of The Queen, Vice Admiral Sir James Weather-all (Marshal of the Diplomatic Corps) called upon His Excellency Mr Murad Charley, St George's House, 14-17 Wells Street, London WI, this morning in order to bid farewell to His Excellency upon relinquishing his appointment as Ambassador of Turkmenistan.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE February 17: The Duke of Edin-Mint Advisory Committee, this morning received Mr Roger de L-Holmes and Mr Graham Dyer at Buckingham Palace.

His Royal Highness, Patron of the Institute of Management, later received Sir Anthony Gill, Sir Anthony Cleaver and Miss Mary hapman at Buckingham Palace. The Duke of Edinburgh later

received Mr David Hempleman-Adams, Mr Phil Dunnington, Mr Adams, Mr Phil Dunnington, Mr Terry McCoy and Mr Victor Mardones at Buckingham Palace. His Royal Highress, President and Honorary Life Fellow of The Royal Society for the encourage-ment of Arts, Manufactures and

Commerce, this afternoon chaired The President's Forum at Bucking-The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron and Trustee, this evening attended The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Friends Reception at Buckingham

His Royal Highness, Patron and Trustee, this evening attended The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Char-

ter Members Dinner at St James's The Duke of Edinburgh was ited by Lieutenant-Colonel H.R.A. Streather at the Puneral Henry Radice which was held at

Royal engagements

All Saints Church, Hewlett Road,

The Duke of Edinburgh, patron. Trust Friends' reception at Buckngham Palace at 6.00, followed by the patrons' company dinner at St James's Palace.

The Princess Royal will open new wards and facilities at Sidmouth Victoria Cottage Hospital. May Terrace, Sidmouth, Devon, at 0.00: will visit Sidmouth Homeonathic Clinic, Twyford House, Coburg Road, at 10.55; as patron.

Cheltenham. Gloucestershire to-

CLARENCE HOUSE February 17: Colonel Nicholas Smith today had the honour of being received by Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, Colonel-in-Chief, The Queen's Royal Hussars (The Queen's Own and Royal Irish), upon relinquishing his ap-pointment as Commanding Offic-

ST JAMES'S PALACE February 17: The Prince of Wales. President. The Prince of Wales's undation of Architecture and the Urban Environment, this morning addressed the Housing Corpora-tion's Annual conference Building a Better Future at the Stakis

Metropole Hotel, Brighton, East His Royal Highness later visited the West Pier in Brighton, where he received a briefing on the planned restoration. The Prince of Wales then visited

a scheme to house homeless people as carefule to house notheress people as part of the Housing Corpora-tion's Rough Sleepers initiative at 5 College Road, Brighton. His Royal Highness afterwards visited St Peter's Church.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE February 17: The Prince Edward Trustee. The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, this evening attended the Award's Friends Reception at Buckingham Palace followed by the Award's annual Charter Member Dinner at St James's Palace. Lieutenani Colonel Sean O'Dw

yer was in attendance. February 17: The Princess Royal, this morning visited Bakewell, Derbyshire to view various aspects of The Bakewell Project - a scheme to secure the future of Bakewell through important economic, social, business, support and training needs of the community - and was received by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant of Der-

byshire (Mr John Bather). Her Royal Highness subsequent-ly visited Royal Crown Derby to open their new Visitor Centre at Osmaston Road, Derby, and was received by Lieutenant Command-er Martin Boissier, Royal Navy

(Vice Lord-Lieutenant).
The Princess Royal, Patron. National Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux, this afternoon attended Derby Bureau's 60th Anniversary Celebration to open their new premises at Progressive Building, Sitwell Street, Derby, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Derbyshire

(Mr John Bather). Her Royal Highness later ed the new factory extension at Thorntons plc, Thornton Park. Somercotes, Alfreton, Derbyshire. Green Gables Cheshire Home. Wingfield Road, Alfreton, Derby,

and officially opened the new

KENSINGTON PALACE February 17: The Duke of Glouces ter. Commissioner. English Herit-

age, today anended the Commis-sioners' Meeting at Fortress House, Savile Row, London Wl.

Sense — the National Deafblind and Rubella Association, will open the new Day Centre at Providence Court, 37 Northern Hay Street, Exeter, at 11.35 and will open Applemend, a new group home, at 12.35; and as parron, the National Autistic Society, will open Saunders House, the new off-site residential unit at Broomhayes School, Fore Street, Northam, at 1.55. Germany).

The Duke of Kent, patron, the Hanover Band, will attend a concert at St John's Smith Square, London SWI, in the evening.



Nigel Simms armed for his role as the Viking warrior Njal Sigmundsson in the Jorvik Viking Festival at York.

Mr Simms and hundreds of other enthusiasts met to do battle there yesterday

Admiral of the

Fleet Lord Lewin A service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Admiral of the Fleet Lord Lewin will be held in the Fleet Lord Lewin will be held in the Chapel of the Old Royal Naval College. Greenwich, at 3.00pm on Tuesday, April 13, 1999. Dress for the occasion will be Day Dress (non ceremonial) or a dark lounge suit. Those wishing to attend are invited to apply for tickets no later than Friday, March 5, enclosing a stamped self-addressed envelope to: Ministry of Defence. Naval Personnel Secretariat 2B3, Room 222. Victory Building, HM Naval Base, Portsmouth, POI 3LS. Admission to the service will be by

Admission to the service will be by ticket only. Applications should include the full names of all those who wish to attend. Tickets will be despatched on Wednesday, March 31, and will be issued on an individual basis. In the event that ticket applications exceed Chapel capacity, it would be helpful if applicants could indicate their connection with Lord Lewin. Unsuccessful applicants will be noti-

Sir Alan Hodgkin, OM. FRS

A memorial service for Sir Alan Lloyd Hodgkin, OM, KBE. FRS, Fellow of Trinity College, John Humphrey Plummer Professor of Ringhysics 1969-1981, President of the Royal Society 1970-1975, Mas-ter of Trinity College 1978-1984, will be held in Trinity College Chapel, on Sahuday, April 24, 1999, at

Royal Astronomical Society The 1999 Royal Astronomical Socie-

ty awards are as follows: Gold Medals to Professor Bohdan Pacynski (Princeton University) and Dr Kenneth Budden of the Cavendish Laboratory, Cambridge University

ddington Medal to Professor oger Blandford (CALTECH). Roger Standard (CALLECH).
Associateship
Dr Enric Banda (France), Professor
Bernard Fort (France), Dr Ernest
Hildner (USA), Professor Vijay
Kapahi (India), Professor Keiichi
Kodaira (Japan), Dr Alfonso Serrano (Mexico), Dr Carl Tscherning
(Denmark), Dr Heinrich Wänke
(Germand).

Poulters' Company The following have been elected officers of the Poulters' Company

for the ensuing year: Master, Mr C.R.S. Link; Upper Warden, Mr P.C. Keevil; Renter Warden, Mr D.M. Jackson.

Broken leg gives away antique theft

By Dalya Alberge, arts correspondent

the British Museum."

conducted some years ago.

He expressed disappoint

ment that, after the object had

been identified. Sotheby's had

not been able to dissuade the

consignor from pursuing his

claim: "I've had to take out a

summons under the Police

Property Act. That all costs money." A hearing is sched-

uled for March 4 at Horsefer-

Sotheby's said the matter is

now in police hands. The firm

had spoken to the consignor

removed from the sale: "We

have had no response to our letters thereafter."

eers is that they are middle-

men. "We cannot act as judge

and jury on this. It's not our

place to hand back an object

like this. It's for the authori-

ties," a Sotheby's spokesman

said. With the best will in the

world, you cannot detect every

stolen object, which is why we

so actively support the Art

The register, which is based

in Southwest London and

New York, has 100,000 items

on its database practically

any object - from paintings

and sculptures to musical

instruments, armour and

watches - can be put on it to

fight the trade in stolen art.

GARTON ASH - See Ash.

GARIUM AND - See And.
HATTAM - Son Ldr Michael
Harwood RAF on
February 15th, peacefully
at Gloucester Royal
Hospital; desply loved by
his wife Audrey and
children Simon and Testa.
Family flowers only.
Enoutries to Mason &

Enquiries to Mason & Stokes (01342) 224877.

Stokes (01242) 224977.

#AWKUSS - Kay/Kata.

Suddenly but pescefully on February 12th. She is sadly missed by husband Ron, son Ian, daughter So and her grandchildren Amy, Joe, Harrison, Katie, Burnsby and Sydnie.

Funeral et Chistehorst Methodist Church on Pohynary 22nd et 11.15 ag

Pebruary 22nd at 11.15 at

Flowers or donations (British Heart Foundation), to The Coach House, 85 North Cray Road, Sideup, DA15.

EPRING - Pater percefully on February 16th at North

London Hospice. Service at Mill Hill School Chapel

on Wednesday 24th February at 2.30 pm. Family flowers only. Donations to The North

JACKSOM - Pameis on 14th February 1999 aged 57 after a long fight against cancer. Much loved wife of James and mother of Catherine and Michael

Funeral at St Stephen's Church, Bath, on 24th

Loss Register.

The problem for auction-

on the day the vessel was

ry Road Magistrates' Court.

THE auction of a 3,000-yearold Chinese vessel has been stopped because it was stolen in 1995. A repair made after a British Museum expert dropped it in the 1960s led to

its identification. A broken leg that had been stuck back on to its tapered tripod identified it as different from the thousands of other examples that have survived worldwide.

Magnus Mitchell, antiquities specialist of the Art Loss Register, a computerised data-base of stolen works of art, discovered that it had been stolen from Sir John Morgan. a former Ambassador to Ko-

rea, Poland and Mexico. The vessel was in a cataogue of Japanese and Chinese art which Sotheby's planned to auction last No-vember. The 18.7cm-piece, which was valued at around £1.200 has now become the subject of a legal dispute. It has been taken away by the Belgravia police and Sir John has taken out a summons

under the Police Property Act. The Hong Kong dealer who consigned it for sale is said to have claimed that he bought it in good faith in Portobello Market for £250.

Sotheby's, a major shareholder in the register, is among the auction houses. dealers and private individuals who consult it. The auctioneers automatically submit every sale catalogue for a comolete check.

Mr Mitchell checked Lot 215 in its November catalogue — an archaic bronze vessel of the late Shang Dynasty. 12th to 11th century BC - against his database. Sotheby's entry acknowledged that it had been "restored". Although there are believed to be 10.000 examples of such vessels around the world, he found this one matched the stolen

CRATHORNE - Sealth Sky or

17th February 1999 aged
3. Adored daughter of
Ralph and Cally and much
loved sister of Lucy, Polly
and Jenima. T will say of
the Lord He is my refuge

the Lord He is my reinge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust "Psalm 91 v2. Service at St Mary Bredin Church, Numery Pleids, Canterbury at 12 noon on Monday 2nd February 1999. Donations to Happy Child Brazil or the CPCH Philippines Orphanage by cheque payable to Besom Foundation, 42 Burlington Road, London W4 4EE.

AGNALL - Jonathan (Herry)

Degriy loved son of Peter and Virginia and beloved brother of Peter, Andrew and Winkie. Uncle.

Godfather and dear friend of the Brabourne Family

or the propource painty and many others. Private funeral (donations to locate Gilbert Rhabdomyosarcoms

Birthdays today

Mr Rob Andrew, rugby player. 36: Mr Michael Argent, Chief Consta-ble, North Wales, 54; Mr Michael Buerk, broadcaster. 53: Miss Phyl-lis Calvert, actress, 84; Mr José Maria Canizares, golfer, 52; Miss Jean E. Cooke, painter, 72; Miss Sinead Cusack, actress, 51; Mr Roy Dean, diplomat, 72; Mr Phillip DeFreitas, cricketer, 33; Mr Len Deighton, author, 70; Lieutenanwas very exciting". Sir John recalled how, General Sir Donald Dunstan, 76: Mr Milos Forman, film director. while at the Moscow Embassy, he was visited by the British Museum's then head Sir Charles Frossard, former Bailiff of Guernsey, 77; Mr Grae-me Garden, actor and comedian, of antiquities, Basil Gray: "I 56; Miss Tessa Hilton, former deputy editor. The Express, 48: Dr showed it to him and he dropped it. He broke one of J.C. Houston, former Dean, Unitthe legs off and felt dutyed Medical and Dental Schools, Guy's and St Thomas' Hospital, bound to have it restored by St. Mr Colin Jackson, athlete, 32: Sir Peter Laurence, diplomat, 76; Miss Prue Leith, cookery writer and caterer, 59; Sir Michael Lick-iss, accountant, 65: Professor Wil-Letters describing the restoration provided the evidence he needed to stop the vessel's sale. He also has Sotheby's own valuation of the piece. liam McKane, FBA, Emeritus Principal, St Mary's College, St Andrews University, 78: Mr Gary Neville, footballer, 24: Sir Arthur part of a house valuation it

General Sir John Wilsey, 60.

Dinners Guild of Freemen of the

City of London Mr Norman Munday, Master of the Guild of Freeman of the City of ondon, presided at a dinner held last night at Carpenters' Hall. Mr Guy Morton-Smith, Master of the Carpenters' Company, also spoke.

Norman, former ehairman, World

Wide Fund for Nature, UK, 82; Lord Paul, 68; Mr Bobby Robson,

former manager, England tootball man. 66; Miss Cybill Shepherd, actress, 49; Mr Ned Sherria.

producer, director and writer, 68; Sir Max Williams, solicitor, 73;

Marylebone Cricket Circh The President of MCC was in the Chair at a Club Dinner held at Lord's last night. Mr Tony Dode maide proposed the toast to "Cricket", and the President responded.

London Goodenough Trust for Overseas Graduates Professor Graham Zellick, Vice-Chancellor, London University, was the guest speaker at the annual London Goodenough Trust for Overseas Graduates Education & Science Faculty dinner held last night at Meckleoburgh Square. Mr J.P.G. Wathen, Governor of the Trust, and Major-General T.P. Toyne Sewell, director, received the guests. London Goodenough Trust

Crabtree Roundation
Lord McNally delivered oration at
the annual dinner of the Crabtree
Foundation held last night at
University College London, Dr
Stephen Montgomery presided.

marriages Mr T.J. McCracken and Miss A.J. Barnes

Forthcoming

Mr S.M. Barnes and Miss J. Antrim The engagement is announced between Stuart, son of Mr and Mrs

William Barnes, of Godalming. Surrey, and Julia, daughter of Mr and Mrs William Antrim, of. Hampton Hill, Middlesex. Mr J.J.S. Douglas Mann and Miss M. Goulet

The engagement is announced between James, son of Mrs Keith Douglas Mann and the late Mr Keith Douglas-Mann, of Westmeston, Sussex, and Michelle, daughter of Mr and Mrs Roger Goulet, of

Mr RAFN. Haste and Miss T.K. Ordish The engagement is announced between Rupert, elder son of Mr and Mrs Ian Hastie, of Montirat, France, and Tessa, only daughte

of the late Michael Ordish and of Mrs Ordish, of Chelsea, London

SW3.

Mr CCS. Longcroft
and Miss A.C. Peppiatt
The engagement is announced between Christopher, son of the late Mr James Longcroft and of Mrs Valerie Longcroft, of Gstaad, Switzerland, and Amanda, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Brian Peppiatt, of Ford, Buckinghamshire

Mr P.J. McConnon and Miss R.J. Wise The engagement is announced between Peter, eldest son of Dr and Mrs Joseph McConnon, of Brampton, Ontario, and Robyn, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Julian Wise, of North Lufferham,

Mr R.W. Swallow and Miss D.A. Luxion The engagement is announced between Rupert, son of Mrs Dalsy Swallow, of Bath, Avon, and Dee, daughter of Mrs Corrine Lavelle,

Rutland

The engagement is announced between Tunothy James, elder so of Mr and Mrs Stephen McCracker of Quarrington, Lincolnshire, and Amanda Jane, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Richard Barnes, of

Leasingham, Lincolnshire.

Mr M.K. McMallen and Miss C.B. Robb The engagement is announced between Mark, son of Mr Terrence McMullen, of Densworth. Chichester, West Sussex, and Mrs Harriet Bridle, of Woody Bay, North Devon, and Belinda, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Anthony Robb, of Huish Champliower, Wiveliscombe, Somerset

Dr J.S.D. Nichoils and Dr C.S. Bobrow

The engagement is announced The engagement is announced between Jonathan, younger son of Dr Michael Nicholls and the late Mrs Nicholls, of Chichester, West Sussex, and Catherine, eldest daughter of Professor Martin and Dr Lynda Bobrow, of Balsham.

Cambridgeshire.

and Miss S.A. Roome and Miss S.A. Roome
The engagement is announced between Barry, second son of Mr Henry Sweetbaum, of Regent's Park, London, and the late Mrs Suzanne Littwin, and Sophie, eldest daughter of Mrs Godfrey Bradman, of Regent's Park, London, and the late Mr Christopher Roome.

Mr J.C. Wakefield

and Miss L.J. Hicks Beach
The engagement is announced
between James, son of Mr and
Mrs R. Wakefield, of Epperstone. Nottinghamshire, and Lucinda, daughter of Mrs Flicks Beach and the late Mr Mark Hicks Beach, of

Institute of Physics

The following have been elected Fellows of the Institute of Physics: Professor Peter Ade, Professor Steven Schwartz and Professor Glenn White. Queen Mary & Westfield College. Dr Khalil Arshak, Limerick Uni-

versity, Ireland. Professor John Barrow, Sussex Professor David Barchelder and Professor Alan Watson, Leeds

Sir John Browne, BP. Mr Dennis Camilleri. Combined
Onical Industries.

Dr John Cantrell, NASA Langley Research Centre. Dr Janet Carter, Professor Peter

Landshoff and Professor Neil Turok, Cambridge University. Dr Ian Collock, Essex University. Dr Graham Coley and Mr Martin Earwicker, DERA Famborough. Professor Robert Cryan and Professor 'John Wilson, University of Professor Richard Ellis, Institute of Astronomy.

Dr Graham Farmelo. Science Dr Wendy Flavell, UMIST. Professor Kenneth Freeman, Ausralian National University.

Professor Balazs Gyorffy, Bristol University. Dr Hermann Hauser, Advanced Telecommunications Modules. Professor Raymond Hide, Oxford

Mr Neil Howarth, Magnox Electric. Professor Kimmo Kaski, Helsinki University of Technology. Ms Averil Macdonald, Padworth

University

College.
Dr Nigel Mason, University College London.
Dr Stephen Maxfield, Liverpool

PORTEOUS - Robin Patrick, on February 10th, aged 55, suddenly at home. Durling husband of Penny and gentle father to Lizzie. From and Ismes. Funeral at 2pm, St Nicolas Church, Newbury, on Monday 22nd February. Donations in lieu of flowers to the Robin Porteous Fund' supporting nilcromate prize for the poorest of the poor (cheques payable to 'OM', details 0181 658 3860). Then the gody shall shine as the sun in their Father's kingdom'.

POTT - Janet died pescefully at home on Monday 15th February, aged 25 years.

QUALE - At The Westerz

Euring Dr Stephen Nightingale, ERA Technology. Dr Stephen Parkes, Dundee Uni versity.
Professor Terence Sloan, Lancas-

ter University. Professor Kellogg Stelle, Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine. Professor John Strong, Royal Holloway, London. Mr Nicholas Tolliday, DERA

Portsdown West. Mr John Wilson, ESTEC-XRI Efectrical Systems/RF System Professor Nikolai Yatsenko, Rus-sian Academy of Sciences

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Queen Mary I, reigne 1553-58, Greenwich, 1516: Count andro Volta, physicist, Como, rian Basford, Nottinghamshire 1790: George Peabody, American philanthropist, South Danvers, Massachuseus, 1795; Ramakrishna, Hindu mystic, Hooghly, Ber-gal, 1836; Andrés Segovia, guitar-ist, Linares, Spain, 1894; Enzo Ferrari, racing car manufacturer, Modena, 1898.

DEATHS: Cornelius Agrippa von Nettesheim, physician and theologian. Grenoble, 1535; Martin Luther, Protestant reformer, Eisleben, Germany, 1546; Michelangelo Buonarroti, sculptor, painter and poet, Rome, 1564; James Corbett (Gentleman Jim), world heavy-weight boxing champion 1892-97. New York, 1933: Robert Oppenheimer, physicist and pioneer of the atom bomb, Princeton, New Jersey, 1967. John Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress

The planet Pluto was discovered by Clyde Tornbaugh at Lowell Observatory, America, 1930.

BMDS: 0171 680 6880 PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

TRADE; 0171 481 1982 FAX: 0171 481 9313

Sing praise to the LOSD, all his Askhird people! Agmentator what the Hoty Core has done, and give him the test only a nominal lifetime. Teams may flow in the night, but joy comes in the moraling. Peaking 30.4-5 (GNS)

BIRTHS ASADi - On February 13th at The Portland Hospital, to Karlene and Fareed, a

BUTLER - On 13th February 1999, at St Joseph's Hospital, Burbank, Los Angeles, to Kirsten (née van Schreven) and Easte van Schreven and Eamo a son, Sam James Henri.

CHALK - On February 12th at The Portland Hospital, COLLINS - On February 7th, to Katio (pée Hamilton)

DEALTRY On 15th February 99 to Nicols (nee imbul)) and Giles, a son. Jake Alexander, a brother for Felix and Oscar.

EVERDEN - On February 10th, to Jane (nee Brus nd Kevin, a son. Toby

GORDON - On February 12th to Harrist (nee Yates) and John, a perfect daughter, a stater for Aleadair and HYNES - On Pebruary 11th, to Lisa (née Jones) and

Andrew, a son, Milo Fergel JOHNSON - On 7th February, to Lucy (néc Pollock) and Giles, a son. Benjamin Anthon Montagu, a brother for

LEE - On Fabruary 8th 1999. To Vanessa (née Ashbourne) and Roger, a doughter, Alicia. MILLS - On February 11th 1999: to Deborah (née Wilson) and William, a daughter, Jemima Grace Rose, a sister for Toby.

ARMOLD - Jan peacefully or ARNOLD - Jan peacetuny on 15th February 1999 aged 55 years. Dearly loved wife of John and mother of Toby. Funeral Service to take place at St Michael's Parish Church, Milverton, on Friday 19th February at 12 noon Jollowed by Internet No. 2 parish Church Wilverton. DEATHS

10th at The Royal Surrey 10th at The Royal Surrey County Hospital to Shons (née Cameron) and Gordon, a son, Hamish Cameron, a brother for

BIRTHS

SMOND - On 15th February 1999, to Melissa Ling and Nicholas, a beautiful daughter,

EECKTS - On February 9th 1999, to Virginia (noe Bull) and Richard, a daughter, HARIF-CHOUDHRY - On

February 10th at The Portland Hospital, to Razin and Zeg, a lovely son, Asdam Jacqub. MERVILLE - On 17th

February, to Aman Carse) and Jonath: Dominic James. TEPHENS - On February 10th to Laura (née Mart and Mark, a daughter Isabelia Daisy Rachsel

TEPHENSON - On 8th February to Debra (nee Wells) and Gareth, a daughter, Phoebe Kate.

DEATHS

at 12 noon followed by interment. No flowers by request but donations if desired for the "Ian Arnold Examor Memorial Fund" may be sent c/o Anthody James Funers Director. 30 letworth. Flowers, or if desired donations to The Stapleford Trust, may be sent to Southgates Funer Directors, 25 Duchess Drive, Newmarket CB8 -8AG. Other enquiries to The Estate Office 01248 783521. Lion d'Angert, Ford Road,

SH - On February 16th in boupits! after a sudden illness, Barbara, daughter of the late Dorothy and of the late Dorothy and Harold Carton Ash, much loved sister of John Garton Ash, aunt and great-aunt of Christopher, Thouby and their families. Cremation at 2.00pm on Saturday 20th February at West Hertfordshire Campaign Migh Films

West restortion, High Elms Lane, Garston, Watford (M1 junction 6). Family flowers only. Donations if (at I function 6). Family flowers only. Donations if desired to John Grooms Association for Disabled People, 50 Scrutton Street London EC2A 4PH.

SREWSTER - Margaret
(Peggy) Jean Huntington.
On 14th February 1999.
Beloved wife of Harry for
54 years. Much loved
mother of Anne, Harry.
John and Margaret and
grandmother of Emily and
Harry. A Thanksgiving
Service to celebrate
Peggy's life will be held at Peggy's life will be held at Christ Church, Victoria Road, London W8 on Friday 26th February at 12

BRISTCI. - The Marquess of The funeral of John, 7th Marquess, who died on 10th January, will take place at St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds at 11sm on Tuesday Zird February followed by internal at followed by interment at St Mary's Church, lekworth. Flowers, or if desired donations to The

CHARLTON - On 15th
February 1999, peacefully
at home, Fred Charlton,
MBE, aged 81 years
Formerly Director of
British Airways
Helicoptors, Dear father of
Bob and Joanne, Funeral
service at St
Bartbolomews Church,
Russton Selden 35th service at St Bartbolomews Church, Burstow. Friday 26th February at 2 pm. Flowers and all enquiries to Stoneman. Doran Court, Redhill (01737) 763456.

COMS - Eve, died peacefully in hospital after a brief tilness, on 13th February, aged 93. Mother of Edwar and David, grandmother

HARLTON - On 15th

flowers may be made at the church and crematorium in aid of the eremetorium uz === v. British Heart Foundai To place death notices.

acknowledgements

or notices please call

0171 680 6880

COOK - Pencefully in Nineworlds Respital, Dundee on Sunday 14th February 1999, Mary (Molly) beloved wife of the late James Cook C.B.E. formerly of Mainyala and Sarawak. Dearest mother of Jim and Kathryn. mother-in-law of Ronald, cherished grandmother of Fiona, Jenniler and Ross. Funeral service in St. Luke's and Queen Street Church, West Queen Street Broughty Ferry on Saturday 20th February at 10.50 am, thereafter at Dundee Creanatorium at 11.45 am, All Iriemds are respectfully invited, family flowers in lieu of flowers may be made at

ELLOWES - Peregripe Edward Launcelot peacefully at home on February 15th aged 86. Beloved husband of Beloved husband of Maureen, father of Nicholas, David. Rory am Julian, grandfather of Jensen, Jonathan. Alexandra. Cordelis and Paregrins. Puneral at St Catherine's Catholic Church, Chipping Campden on Monday Tin February at 11 0 clock. London memodal service FOWLER - Ismes Owen
Fowler RD, of Caklands
Park, Redhill (formatly of
Claygate), aged 91, much
leved husband of Valmai
On 15th Eshand

Rhabdomyosarcoma Appeal, c/o Mr R Berg, Janes Solicitors, 11/12 Dover Street, London V Thanksgiving Celebrati to be announced later. os W rial service

On 15th February 1999 after a short illness, at East Surrey Hospital. Service at Randalls Park

Leetherhead at 3.30 pm on Tuesday 23rd February. Family flowers only.

Church, bank to Am. Flowers or donations to The Bath Cancer Unit Support Croup to W.F. Dolman & Son. 9 Walcot Terrace. Bath. KERSHAW - Brends Margaret née Smith, dearly loved wife of Peter and mother of Michael, or February 17th 1999 after a short illness courageously borna.
Funeral Tuesday 23rd
Funeral Tuesday 23rd
February 1899 at Mortiska
Crematorium at 2.30 pm.
Family flowers only.
Donations if death Family flowers only.

Donations if desired to Th
Marie Curie Cancer Care

c/o Holmes & Daughters, tel: (0181) 392-1012.

GRK. Frank James. On February 16th at Chase Farm Hospital, peacefull, Former Deputy Chief Impactor of Factories, much loved humband of Elsie, father of Janet and Linds, grandfuther of Elsie, father of Jenet and Linds, grandfather of Debbie and Emmia, and great-grandfather of Julia and Heien. Funeral at 10.15 am Fridny 28th February, 5t Thomas's Parish Church, Oakwood, N14. Family flowers only, Doustions to RNIB or a charity of your choice. Enquiries to W. Nodes 0181-886 0122.

MACCOLL - Allam, Emeritus Professor of Chemistry, University College London om February 16th, aged 84. Much loved busband of Margaret and father of Catrions and Frena. Funeral at Randells Park Creemionium. Crematorium, Leatherhead Monday February 22nd at 4.00 pm. No flowers please, donations if desired to The National Trust.

MacLEAN - Christina
MacLeod, loved sister of
Jess and Douald, died
pascefully on 14th
February 1999. Funeral at
11.30 am St Pancras
Cametery, Lostion, on
Friday 19th February. No
flowers please, but
donations if desired to
RNIL.

MOORE - Pather Anthon Moore on 14th February after short illness at St Bernard's Church, West Newton, Mass., USA.

acknowledgements

or notices please call

0171 680 6880

Pearson Pre-School Suliding Fund may be sent to Malcolm J Presland Funetal Directors, 19 Fligh

Street, Upton upon Severp, WRS OHI.

Upton upon Severn Parish Church on Monday February 22nd at 2 30 pm, to which all friends are welcome. No flowers please Department? To place piesse. Donstlosse wished for Upton Community Care or the Pre-School death notices.

Callender (Jack) F.R.C.S.
Ed. eged 36, pescentully at
St. Raphael's Hospice after
a long lliness. Destry lowed
husband of Margaret (née
Franks), swech lowed
father of Anne, Jean and
Christina, and a dear
grandpa and greatgrandpa. Private
cremation followed by
Thankegiving Service at St
Andrew's United
Reformed Church,
Northey Avenue, Cheam,
Surrey on Friday 25th
Februsary at 2.00pm.
Family flowers only, but
donations if desired to St
Raphael's Hospice, Cheam,
c/o W.A. Truslove & Son
Ltd, 118 Cambalton Read,
Sutton, Surrey, Tel 6181
642 8211.

February 1999, John Callender (Jack) F.R.C.5

PEARSON - John Lewis, died at boms in Upton upon. Severn on Monday February 15th 1999 in his 84th 94th. For over 50 years a loving and greatly level tunisand of Christins Joan. A devoted and proud father of Christopher, Michael and James and daughters-in-law Insetts and 16. He enjoyed the company of his grandchidren Sarah, Chris, Elliot, Richard. Oliver, Alaz, Henry and Lydia. Our gratefut thunks to all the medical team of Upton upon Severn and members of the British nutsing agency and CHARE - At The Western Infirmary, Glasgow on 15th Pebruary, 1985, in her Sord year, Ida Barbara Haien Ranton, O.B.E. Beloved wife of the late Keunsth McEwan Qualle and etepsuother of Bill and Roale (Walls), formerly Lady Superintendent of Nurses at The Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh and prior to that Matton of The Victoria Infirmary, Glasgow, Service at All Saints Church, Drymen Roed, Bearaden on Thesday 23rd February at 1.30pm followed by cremation at Dainottar Crematorium, Clydchank nutsing agency and friends. The cramation is private. A thanksgiving service will be held at

Crematorium, Clydchank st 2.50pm. Family Howers only please. Donations in Hea (if desired) to Maria Curie Canter Care, 29 Albany Street, Edinburgh EH1 ZAE. MED - Dr Margaret G.P. Reed of Meadowcroft Retirement Home, died February 12th 1998, aged 98 at Addenbrookes Hospital, Funeral Friday 19th February at 2.30pm or St Edwards King and

TAYLOR - Dr. Alfred Butler, died 15th February 1999 aged 37. Funaral at All Saints Church, Cawthorne, near Barnaley, Tuesday 23rd February 2 pm. Family flowers only, deastions to All Saints Church, Cawthorne.

SCOTT-WHITE - Dr Lowis
Arthur, formerly of Bath
died pestatuly at home on
February 15th 1999.
Private family cremation
Donations, if wished, to
The Injured Jockeys Fund,
PO Box 9, Newmarket.

Church, Cawthorne.
TRETHEWEY - Chris, died pascafully at home on February 16th 1999, aged 71 years. Beloved husband of Bridger, much loved father of Rachel and Becky. A Service of Thanksgiving will be held at Central Church, Torquay on Wednesday February 24th at 2.00pm. Family flowers only, donations if desired, for The Friends of Rowardfunds beleft by retiring collection or sent to Torbay and District Funeral Service,

Puneral Service, Wellswood House, 11 Rebbacomba Road Torquay, Tel 01803 315005.

(ARD BULLER - Cwenny, beloved mother of Rodger and Anthony, on February 15th. 4

Section of the Section

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《新文明教》及李明华

ERNER - On February 16th 1999, Rose Whilred, 1939, Rose Winifred daughter of Hubert Verner, in her 98th year peacefully at home. Funeral 11.30 am on Wednesday 24th February at St John the Baptist, Layer-de-in-Haye. All are welcome.

WASD - Thomas Creasey, on 15th February, peacefully at home, aged 88 years. Beloved husband of the late Elizabeth, loving father of Isnet and Angela and devoted grandiather of Meisnie. Thomas, Caroline and William, Paneral arrangement Funeral arrangements by Edward White and Son, tel 01243 782136. Arthury .

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STILL STREET

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OBITUARIES

amed - or oken of pag Petre Crowder, QC, former Conservative MP for Ruislip-Northwood, died on Vebruary 16 aged 79. He was born on July 18, 1919.

ithough Petre Crow-der held the safe Tory seat of Ruislip-Northwood (from 1974, Hillingdon, Ruislip-Northwood) for almost thirty years, his name was more often before the public in his other career as a barrister. As a defending counsel he ap-peared in the two most notorious gangland cases of the 1960s, the Richardson torture" trial and the Kray murder trial.

In both cases the defence was between a rock and a hard place in the face of a mass of evidence for the prosecution. In the 1967 torture trial, in which the Richardson brothers. Charles and dward, leaders of a feared South London gang, were charged with associates with offences ranging from robbery and assault to causing griev-

ous bodily harm, he defended Edward Richardson. On June 7. 1967, at the end of a trial lasting 45 days, during which there was unprecedented intimidatory abuse of witnesses by the defendants, Edward Richardson was found guilty on two counts, of causing actual bodily harm and grievous bodily harm. He was given a ten-year jail sentence to add to one of five years he was already serving. His brother received 25 years. In the 1969 Kray trial, in

which the brothers Reggie and Ronnie Kray and others were charged with the murder of Jack "the Hat" McVitie, Crow-der defended Christopher Lambrianou who, it was alleged, had been present at the scene of the crime. On March 5, 1967, after an Old Bailey trial even longer and more expensive than that of the Richardson gang, Lambrianou was found guilty of murder and sentenced to life imprisonment, with a recommendation that he serve at least 15 years.

The Krays received life sen-

PETRE CROWDER tences with a recommendation of 30 years' detention.

But as a defence counsel Crowder was not always on the wrong end of the verdict in such intractable cases. Indeed, he had earlier successfully defended Ronnie Kray against a charge of demanding money with menaces. And three years later, representing a client of a very different sort of celebrity, he successfully defended the maverick MP Sir Gerald Nabarro against a charge of

dangerous driving.
Frederick Petre Crowder
was the son of Sir John Crowder, who was Conservative MP for Finchley from 1935 to 1959 (when he was succeed-ed in the seat by the up-andcoming Margaret Thatcher). Petre was educated at Eton and Christ Church, Oxford. From Oxford he went into the Coldstream Guards when

war broke out in 1939 and

served with the 2nd Battalion

in North Africa. In 1944 he became personal liaison officer

to Lieutenant-General Sir Oliv-

er Leese, who had impressed

Crowder photographed during the Kray trial in January 1969, when he was defending Chris Lambrianou

of his corps at Alamein and was by then commanding the Eighth Army in Italy. Crowder was with Leese during the Eighth Army's assaults on

who had also been with the

medical units in Spain. She

then worked as a nurse in

Cassino and the Gothic Line and remained with him when he went as C-in-C Allied Land Forces South East Asia.

He was demobilised as a major in 1946 but in the

meantime he had had his first sortie into politics when he contested North Tottenham at a by-election in November 1945 created by the elevation of the sitting Labour MP, Robert Morrison, to the peerage. After a vigorous campaign he lopped 10,000 off the 15,000 majority Morrison had enjoyed at the Labour landslide

of July that year.
Political ambitions then had to wait; he turned to the law and was called to the Bar by the Inner Temple in 1948. In later years he always recalled with misgiving one of the earlier cases he had defended, two labourers convicted of murder and hanged in 1954. It was a case which also troubled Christmas Humphreys (later Judge Christmas Humphreys). who led for the Crown. The legal aid authorities

had refused to allow leading counsel to undertake the defence, as is normal in a murder trial, and two junior barristers, Crowder and John Hazan, took the case. Although evidence of intent to

murder was manifestly lacking, the jury convicted and in the Court of Appeal the capital punishment enthusiast Lord Goddard, the Lord Chief Justice, ruled that the conviction was correct. In a climate of public opinion that was moving against hanging, Crow-der, by then an MP, appealed directly to the Home Secretary, Sir David Maxwell Fyfe, who heard him out unmoved and merely replied "The law must take its course". Ironically, it was the intractable hanging policy of Goddard and Maxwell Fyfe that contributed to the abolition of capital punishment a few years later.

In the meantime he had entered Parliament for Ruislip-Northwood in 1950, and held this safe Tory seat until 1974 when it became Hillingdon, Ruislip-Northwood under boundary changes. Jugeling two such careers is never easy and perhaps militated

But Crowder always felt deep-

ly that on that occasion there

had been a miscarriage of

against his achieving pre-emi-nence in either. Crowder was Parliamentary Private Secre-tary to the Solicitor-General, 1952-54, and to the Attorney-General, 1954-62. One of his achievements was the Rape (Anonymity of Victims) Bill which he introduced in 1975 to provide anonymity for the victims of rape. Taken over and championed by the Lab-our MP Robin Corbett, who introduced his own Bill, the notion became law as part of the Sexual Offences (Amendment) Act of 1976.

After practice on the South Eastern Circuit, Crowder was Recorder of Gravesend, 1960-67; he had been deputy chairman of Hertfordshire Quarter Sessions, 1959-73, and was chairman from 1963 to 1971. He retired from Parliament in 1979. He was Treasurer of the Inner Temple in 1991. Petre Crowder married, in 1948, the Hon Patricia Stourton, daughter of Baron Mowbray, Segrave and Stourton. He is survived by her and by

THORA CRAIG

Thora Craig, founder of the first trade union for nurses, died on January 17 aged 88. She was born on November 25, 1910.

IN HER later years, Thora Craig believed that volunteer-ing to nurse in Spain was "the finest and best and most important decision I've made in my life". She recalled with deep emotion the day in August 1936 when the small medical unit received a wonderful send-off from Victoria tation, where a crowd of thousands cheered as they left

for Republican Spain, less than a month after the start of the war, Young and enthusiastic, she was soon to find that being a theatre nurse under war conditions demanded great skills of improvisation and the ability to work for days on end as the wounded

Thora Silverthorne (as she was before marriage) was the daughter of a South Wales miner whose trade union activism formed the foundations for her own political beliefs. Although her mother was an invalid, she and her seven siblings were a happy family. When her mother died, they moved to Reading, and Thora trained as a nurse at the Raddiffe Infirmary in Oxford. As a member of the Communist Party, she was always ready to combine her humanitarian instincts with political action, helping herself to bandages for the feet of the hunger marchers who passed through Oxford, and earning herself

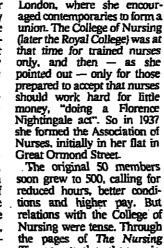
the name "Red Silverthorne". In July 1936, the attempted right-wing coup in Spain failed to overthrow the elected Republican Government, but a bitter civil war followed. International involvement be-

Thora Craig, centre, assisting Dr Tudor-Hart in a field operating theatre in Spain, 1936

came an essential element, although Britain declared an official policy of non-intervention. For Silverthorne, as for many, Spain became an early battleground in the struggle against fascism. She immediately joined a medical unit out from Britain by Spanish Medical Aid. She was initially sent to Granen, and later became part of a mobile unit, moving ever closer to the

She found herself treating not only wounded Spanish and International Brigade soldiers, but injured Spanish women and children from nearby villages, the victims of bombing raids. The days were long and exhausting, but she formed lasting friendships, notably with a Catalan surgeon, Dr Broggi.

On her return to England she married her first husband, Dr Kenneth Sindair-Loutit,



Times an attack on the association was mounted, and questions were raised about the integrity of its founder. As the association grew larger, how-ever, it became part of the National Union of Public Employees (which is now part of

Despite growing family com-mitments, she maintained her interest in policies affecting nurses, and as secretary of the Socialist Medical Association she was part of the delegation which discussed the inception of the National Health Service with Clement Attlee in 1945. she was invited to a reception at the House of Commons. where she was toasted by the then Shadow Health Secretary, Harriet Harman, in recognition of her role as the founder of that early union for

Despite her worsening health, she continued to offer friendship and a warm welcome to those who came to talk to her about her intertwined interests, nursing and

She is survived by her second husband, Nares, and by two daughters and a son.

MEREDITH EDWARDS



Meredith Edwards, actor, died on February 8 aged 81. He was born on June 10, 1917.

A STALWART of the stage through his performances in Shakespeare at the Old Vic after the war, and more recently, in his Welsh language performances at Theatr Clwyd, near Mold, Meredith Edwards was perhaps most widely known as a character actor in films and on tele-

His heyday in cinema was at the Ealing Studios of the 1940s and 1950s. Even when cast in a minor role, he had a knack of occupying some cranny in a film and making it all his own. Though comedy was his metier, he could also inject a moment of haunting seriousness into an apparently fleeting passage, somehow freezeframing it and rendering it

As an actor, there was something of Shakespeare's Welsh sapper officer, Fluellen. in him: comic yet deserving of King Henry V's affectionate description, "There is much care and valour in this Welshman".

memorable.

As such, he pops out of such Ealing films as The Blue Lamp (1950), Girdle of Gold (1953), The Cruel Sea (1953) and Dunkirk (1958), although the central interest is in other characters. Gwilym Meredith Edwards

was born into a coalmining family at Rhosllanerchrugog. Denbighshire, and educated at Ruabon Grammar School. He grew up speaking Welsh and was steeped in the area's radical Welsh nationalist feeling. Later in his life he was to become an active member of Cymdeithas yr Iaith Gymraeg, the Welsh Language Society.

He had his early theatrical experience with the nascent and struggling Welsh National Theatre Company of Lord Howard de Walden. Like many Welsh actors he became imbued with the idea of a Welsh national theatre: in the meantime, with such a thing manifestly not transpiring, he learnt his stagecraft through touring performances.

He moved on to the Liverpool Playhouse, playing in Shakespeare. But war was impending and this phase of his career was interrupted. Edwards, a conscientious objector, worked as a fireman locally and in London, but was subsequently transferred to the Non-Combatant Corps which gave him his chance to reacquaint himself with the stage through Ensa shows while on service in the Middle

With the war over, he returned to the stage proper, acting, appropriately, Owen Glendower in Shakespeare's Henry IV Part I as one of his first roles at the Old Vic. This was a gift for his Welshness though, in truth the part demands a somewhat hammed-up notion of the Celtic character to contrast with Hotspur's plain-spoken northern qualities. A less obvious role was John of Gaunt in Richard II, though Meredith could carry off any of these Shakespeare character parts with his resonant verse-

speaking. His film debut was in the Ealing comedy A Run for Your Money (1950) in which he was one of a distinguished cast - which included Alec Guinness, Moira Lister, Donald Houston, Hugh Griffith and Joyce Grenfell — who impersonate Welsh rugby supporters on the loose during a day out in London. Admittedly, the film was London W5's view of the Welsh character on its most simplistic level. But Edwards was pro enough to fall into line with that — indeed, his remit in most of these Ealing essays was, generally speaking, that of the profes-

sional Welshman. In most of the other films he had minor parts, but in Dunkirk he decided to make his mark as a Welshman of more than the merely comic sort. As Private Bellman, one of a party of soldiers being led to the Dunkirk beachhead by John Mills, he is fatally wounded when a grenade bursts close by. Edwards decided to

utter his dying words in Welsh

and, in spite of protests from the director Leslie Norman that no one would understand them, he got his way, thereby injecting a note of authenticity into the moment.

From the 1960s onwards Edwards was a familiar face in many of the popular television series of the day, from Coronation Street to Z Cars. and in the following decade the growth of arts theatres in Wales gave him much greater opportunities of acting in his native country. The founding of Theatr Clwyd so close to his home in Denbighshire was particularly lucky for him and he featured in a number of the theatre's productions, many of them in Welsh.

The establishment of S4C. the Welsh-language fourth television channel, in the 1980s presented him with further opportunities of acting in Weish. He was proud that all his children worked in tele-

Edwards remained a passionate nationalist to the end. He had been routed when he stood as a Plaid Cymru candidate at the 1966 general election, and was overjoyed to see, first, the party gaining representation at Westminster and finally the day that Wales got its own assembly.

Meredith Edwards was married to Daisy Clark. They had two sons, one of whom is head of drama at HTV, and a daughter.

PERSONAL COLUMN

MEMORIAL SERVICES TICKETS FOR SALE WINTER SPORTS ANNOUNCEMENTS With JAKEN - The memorial Service to celebrate the lives of Sir James and Marybeth, Lady Whitaker will be held at St Swithen t Church, Retford at 1.15 pm on 5th March. Trains will be met by request to (01777) 850964. MEAPEST III LÖBBOOL Phumby Chimpo, Saigun. Ali pop & spo We deliver. 0171 930 8636 Contractions, St Auton, Lach, Zar-matt & Wilstler, Tal: 0181 948 3638. ATOL 2271. ASTA WALDA Improve your life with a Churchill's Stairlift PVI SATIONS Champ, Eng V Ser Rugby World, Cop. Chickor World Cup - All Grand Febr. Holyfield Leefs, Wimbledon Debentus and All Raight sporting was thattre 0171 394 \$283 CC's "Charging's are the only staints? and I trust and I receipe NANNIES & from to you. Les dad Dame Dame Hern Him DOMESTIC BIRTHDAYS Installation often within 2 days ● Call us 7 days a week Sam-6pm Most stains fitted Value guaranteed Guaranteed buy-back at any fetere date Call FREE 0800 371 982 SITUATIONS WANTED TICKETS FOR SALE FOR SALE LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & Pop. Planton, All Thanks Rugby & Sport 0171 536 0781 **PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES** TO PLACE NOTICES FOR THESE SECTIONS PLEASE. Telephone 0171 680 6878 Fax 0171 782 7930 Or Egnall tol. fastures@newsint.co.uk CORPORATE HOSPITALITY ALL TICKETS 5 NATIONS WORLD CUP GRAND PRIX FLIGHTS GRAND PRIX FOOTBALL, ASCOT CRICKET, ETC TEL 01575 443548 DIRECTORY COURT & SOCIAL RTECOMING MARRIAGES AND MARRIAGES OVERSEAS TRAVEL ALL TICKETS ernas, Court & Social Advertising, The Times let 485, Virginaia Street, London, E1 9XS. Feb 8171 782 7347 Pinz 8171 782 7715 5 NATIONS PUGE! flights for ATCE. ASTA Tel-01626 333500 ALL MATCHES!!! RUGBY W/CUP ROYAL ASCOT RICKET W/CUP MBLEDON '99 ANNOUNCEMENTS HOLYFIELD Y LEWIS UK HOLIDAYS THEATRE & CONCERTS 0171 283 5050 ribing Rate is £17.94 per line inc VAT.

AEROPLANES FOR **SALESMEN**

THE formal opening last week by the Director of Civil Aviation (Sir Sefton Brancker) of a new aircraft petrol filling station for the use of private owners at Croydon aerodrome was made the occasion for an interesting announcement of the way big business men are using the light aeroplane as a means of quick travel by their representatives within the Empire. Four light aircraft, Moths and Avians, all flown by ex-officers of the Royal Air Force who had held Short Service commissions, drew up to the station, which has been set up by Shell-Mex Limited, and filled up with petrol. They are some of the future Empire salesmen of this worldwide concern.

It was explained later by Mr. G.N. Wilson, of the Shell Company, that the firm had engaged as a start five of these ex-officer pilots, were training them in business salesmanship, and were then sending them out with their machines to

ON THIS DAY

February 18, 1930

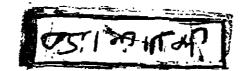
Shell used the opening of its new petrol-filling station at Croydon aerodrome to show how it was using light aircraft to move its representatives round the Empire.

Egypt, India, and Australia to act as their travelling representatives. At present, it was explained, much time was necessarily lost in many parts of the world in travelling owing to the distances to be covered, and Shell, which had pioneered the business aeroplane movement in this country, having used light aeroplanes for the past four years to transport its officials about the country, was now extending

that system to the Empire and ultimately to the world itself. Mr. Wilson added: These machines will be operated by us in the same way as we now operate our fleets of motor-cars in the various countries throughout the world. Routes will be planned and journeys will be made in such a manner as to render the use of these aeroplanes both economical

and efficient." This new form of enterprise, it is worth pointing out, will also tend to assist the export of British aircraft, for the ease with which these Shell representatives will cover a large area in a few hours must bring home to the people overseas the advantages of air transport for business purposes.

The new filling station is situated on the edge of the aerodrome near the A.D.C. works, and there is a neat little hut and measuring station with underground pipes to two chambers on the aerodrome itself. From these a 40ft. flexible hose is run out from a drum below the ground level, and this is sufficient for filling any type of aero-



Israelis open fire on Kurds

Israeli security guards shot dead three Kurdish protesters and injured more than 16 others after a group of militant Kurds attempted to storm Israel's consulate in Berlin yesterday.

Police said the shoot-out began after the Kurds, believed to be supporters of the banned Kurdish Workers' Party (PKK) forced their way into the building. "About 20 Kurds rushed towards the building toppling road signs and everything in their wake." an eyewitness said

Two-year ban likely for GM crops

The Government was last night moving towards a two-year ban on the commercial planting of genetically modified crops. After a week of fierce public and political pressure, government sources admitted that it was increasingly unlikely that ministers would feel ready to go ahead before 2001 Pages 1, 10

Keegan gets top job

Kevin Keegan, the former European Footballer of the Year, was named the new England team manager, but only for the next four internationals.....Page 1

Fans mob ailing Ali

The hoving legend Muhammad ion as he highlighted the work of the Jubilee 2000 movement, which is lobbying governments to cancel Third World debt by the

Galleries join forces

The Tate Gallery and Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art have pooled resources to acquire Joan Miro's Surrealist masterpiecc Head of a Catalan Peasant for £2.1 million Page 7

Body parts plan

An expert on medical ethics has suggested that people should be able to trade in their own body parts to cut down waiting lists of people needing life-saving transplant operations

God termed a woman The Methodist church became the first British church to publish an official prayer book with God addressed as a woman Page 9

Bratless Brits are duli The anarchic reputation of the Brit awards ceremony suffered as it passed without its usual crop of emparrassing stunts and misbe-

Uister enemies meet David Trimble's Ulster Unionist Party held its first bilateral meeting with its former enemies in Sinn Fein as the search for a breakthrough on IRA disarma-

ment intensified.... .. Page 13

'Scots racist' claim Ali was mobbed my fans in Brix- An English couple, who say raccial taunts drove them from their home in Scotland, have won the backing of the Commission for Racial Equality in their claim for racial discrimination......Page 14

Implants on the siv

Hollywood's best-known plastic surgeon enlarged the breasts of Sylvester Stallone's former girlfriend without her consent to make them look "big but perky", court papers claim......Page 15

Curbs on Anwar wife Police have moved to head off a political drive by Wan Azizah, wife of Malaysia's deposed Deputy Prime Minister....Page 16

Ethiopia walks to war Thousands of Ethiopian soldiers were heading north towards Eritrea yesterday, apparently in preparation for a new offensive in the border zone of Western and Central Tigré.. ..Page 17

French attack euro

Europe's new currency, the euro, was condemned as ridiculous and catastrophic by French europhiles who vaunted its launch Page II just six weeks ago........... Page 18

Guitar great auctions his great loves

Historians of popular music, collectors of rock memorabilia and, no doubt, a few speculators will be heading for New York in June: Eric Clapton, hailed as the world's greatest blues-rock guitarist, is auctioning 100 electric guitars to raise funds for the drug rehabilitation centre that he has set up in Antigua. The sale is expected to raise £1 million



The Prince of Wales tours the derelict West Pier in Brighton yesterday. About £30 million is being spent to restore the historic landmark

BUSINESS

Woolwich move: Woolwich announced a joint venture with the US financial services giant Countrywide Credit Industries, as it revealed plans to offer Americanstyle mortgages Page 27 Job losses: BP Amoco is laying off

another 3,000 staff in a defensive move aimed at protecting its earnings from the oil price squeeze that slashed its fourth quarter profits by 59 per cent.....Page 27 Electra defence: Electra Invest-

ment Trust revealed a new defence strategy, including plans to return funds to shareholders...... Page 27 Markets: The FTSE 100 index fell 30.2 points to 6078.4. The pound rose 0.24 cents to \$1.6358 and but fell 0.23p against the euro. The sterling index fell to 101.3...... Page 30 | cutta...

Football: Uefa, the European governing body, announced that it had signed a El billion deal for television rights to cover the Champions' League next seasonPage 49 Golf: Mark James, the Europe Ryder Cup captain, maintained his sparkling early-season form by scoring 67 in the first round of the Qatar Masters in Doha.....Page 47 Tennis: Greg Rusedski, the Great

SPORT

Britain No 2, gained an important but unconvincing victory over Nicolas Kiefer in Ronerdam..... Page 50 Cricket: Shoaib Akhtar, the Pakistan fast bowler, dismissed Sachin Tendulkar for his first golden duck in a Test match as Pakistan fought back strongly against India in the Asian Championship match in Cal-... Page 46

AST . New start: With Titanic Town, the actress Julie Walters has made one of the most important films of her career. Yet she is now more interested in finding a fresh career as a nov-., Page 36

New films: Nick Note and James Coburn come to blows in the grim family drama Affliction, while Eddie Murphy, the funny man of film, sells religion in the comedy Holy Man. .. Page 37

Crystal ball: After a lifetime of money raising, Sir Claus Moser is beginning to see signs of a bright future for the arts in Britain......Page 38 Thumbs up: Declan Donnellan's staging of Corneille's classic Le Cid brings a fresh focus to the first masterpiece of French Neo-Classi-...Page 39

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ EDUCATION

Do league tables

primary schools?

Is press hysteria

hiding the truth

point the way

to the best

■ MEDIA

TATIONS . Happy talk: How Lord Porchester. the 42-year-old heir to the Tutankhamun curse of the Carnarvons, found happiness Page 19 Dr Thomas Stuttaford: Firm handshakes and arthritis; research into Alzheimer's; thyroid trouble and dementia; post mortems......Page 20 Toddler training: The child psycho-

how to smooth the transition from home to school... Biblical revision: Is there anything in the Bible left to be debunked wonders Gabriel Josipovici. Plus,

therapist Asha Phillips explains

Bargains of the week: Rugged Hebridean scenery in a nature tour of Islay and Jura; a break in Paris, Bu-

dapest or Verona; a Caribbean

cruise for about £800 Page 43

reviews by Roy Porter, Howard

Davies...

Mr Ocalan's capture and trial should be used to help diminish this terrible conflict, not inflame it. Turkey's treatment of its Kurdish minority has undercut its democracy. Kurdish terrorism has obscured the legitimate grievances suffered by millions of nonviolent Knirds who have suffered systematic discrimination and been subjected to Turkish attempts to sup-

press Kurdish culture. The New York Times

TA SIGLAL

Preview: Nick Berry returns to the small screen in Harbour Lights (BBCI, Spm) Review: Joe Joseph witnesses waxwork fame in a behind-the-scenes look at Madame. Tussaud'sPages 50, &

The Kurdish way

The question Kurds must ask is whether they can still seek a civilised future in Turkey, or whether they should instead set their political sights on consolidating a tiny homeland in the safe haven of northern Iraq.....

Dress to the left

The Army is to be more representative, will base advancement on equal opportunities and adjust to domestic and European legislation. So far, so New Labour Page 23

Pride and promise

In today's homogenised society, the spirit of regionalism is slowly being. rejuvenated on our plates and i. our glasses..... Page 23

PETER RIDDELL

The polls show that a separate pro-European group could attract double figure support and seriously embarrass William Hague.....Page 13

MATTHEW PARRIS

It fell to this acme of amiability to answer the grumbles of the disabled over facilities in the Palace of Westminster. Of course for Lord Boston, this was a gentle afternoon

M PINTO-DUSCHINSKY The Schröder Government's treat-

ment of those who suffered as slave labourers under the Nazis raises questions about the honesty with which Germany is prepared to confront its past.....Page 22

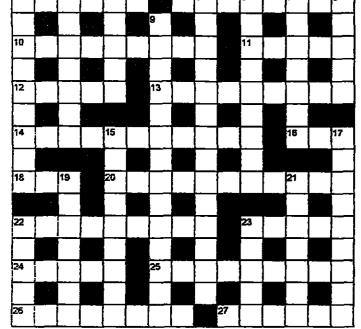
MAGNUS LINKLATER

After reading the views of Dr Arpad Pusztai and the response from the Health Minister involved, it seems to me that the Government is taking the sensible and cuatious route.....Page 22

Petre Crowder, QC, former conservative MP for Ruislip-Northwood; Thora Craig, founder of the first nurses' trade union.... Page 25

Hague's quest; UK view of Germany; Gulf War illness; failed schools; Minimum Wage Act; Morse code; Zimbabwe: Brits abroad; Books for Schools tokensPage 23 •

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 21,030

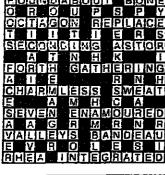


- ACROSS
- I There's composure about Bill Walton's work (6).
- 4 Scraping together a means to sup port Christian church (8). 10 Dealing with abstruse ideas once tried out (4)
- 11 Field, in part, constituting fold (5). 12 Old waitress, quick on her feet (5). 13 What follows gathering at the farm (9).
- 14 If you want to eat nuts, you'll have to start quickly (3.8).
- 16. A record climb (3). 15 The end's in sight, I perceive (3). 20 Attack with rope produces crimi-
- nal record (6.5). 22 Basebali player in trunks and jumper, for instance (9).

23 Rag heard from Cockney musi-

cian (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 2i,029



- 24 Greeting only half addressed to a friend (5).
- 25 Material churned up in stomach
- 26 Most thickset un-English storekeeper (8). 27 Political order making extremes

of stupidity stop (6).

- DOWN I Supporting firm about new time
- period (9). 2 Where you'd see main battle-
- ground (7). 3 Daughter's dark, small and neat
- 5 Pause as a chapter's being rewritten (9-5).
- 6 Snake overcoming vigilant guard ian carrying a spear? (9). 7 President has imposed prohibi-
- tion on a Japanese art form (7). 8 Initialized names of the criminals
- here in the nick (5). 9 Publication that's in the pink
- 15 Course people follow (9). 17 Part of saint's leg stiffening (9).
- 19 Rider, very large man, mounted under pressure (7).
- 22 Belts they're worn well below
- the waist (5). 23 Flower-girl creates a moving im-

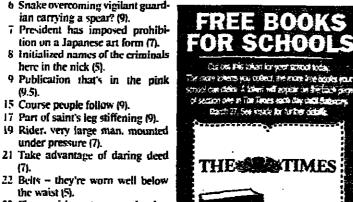
age before end of play (5). Times Two Crossword, page 52 AA INFORMATION

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World City Weather @ To Mak Office

HOURS OF DARKNESS Sun nses: 7.09 am Moon sets: 8.12 pm First quarter: February 23m London 5.20 pm to 7.07 am Bristol 5.30 pm to 7.17 am Ediaburgh 5.22 pm to 7.30 am Manchester 5.24 pm to 7.20 am Peruance 5.45 pm to 7.27 am Moon rises: 8.21 am

NEWSPAPERS enycled paper made up for UK newspapers in 1997



about genetically modified foods? FORECAST: ing mild. Moderate W to SW breeze. Max 12C (54F).

☐ General: overnight rain in E England will soon clear, leaving England and Wales mainly dry but cloudy. Ireland and W Scotland overcast and windy with drizzle on coasts and hills. Rain and snow will clear eastern Scotland this moming and it will become crider with a rand their setting in Tocome milder with a rapid thaw setting in. To-night breezy mostly cloudy and mild

□ London, SE, E and NE England, € An-☐ Central S and Central N England, E and W Midlands: mostly doudy, mainly dry and midd Light W breeze, Max 11C (52F) ☐ Channel Is, S W and NW England, S and N Wales, Lake District, Isle of Man: mostly double with patchy drazie, becom-

Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: milder with sunny breaks. Fresh to strong SW wind. Max 10C (50F). SW and NW Scotland, Glesgow, Central Hightends, Argyll: mainly cloudy and windy with drazie, but mild. Strong SW wind. Max 10C (50F).

N treland: breezy with drazity rain, but mild. Fresh SW wind. Max 12C (54F) Intel Republic bright spells, otherwise misty with sporadic rain or drizzle Wind SW moderate becoming strong. Max 11C (52F). ☐ Outlook: Scotland and N Ireland colder, writry showers England and Wales mild, well

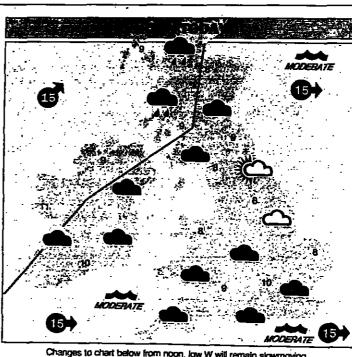
AROUND BUTAIN YESTERDAY

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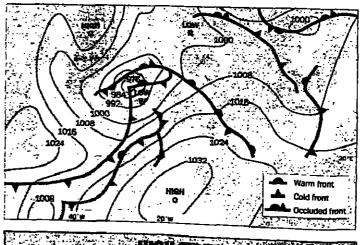
Tuesday, fughest day tempt Souttsea (Hampshra) 11C (52F), lowest day maid Baltasound Scretand; CC (32F), highest rainfalk Lenwick (Shelland) 0.57ins; highest sunshine; Hunstanton Overtok) 6.57s

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Changes to chart below from noon, low W will remain slowmoving, low R will drift slowly east; highs O and G will remain slowmoving



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THE RESCUE UPDATE AND THE Total number of lives saved in 1998: Total number of lifeboat launches in 1998: Cost to RNLI per day: Cost to taxpayer: To make a donation, telephone:

6,694 £222,000

Lifeboats

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In praise for the **Bard**

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BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 18 1999

Electra to close itself after rejecting 3i bid

By ROBERT COLE

ELECTRA Trust, one of the country's most respected venture capital investment funds, is proposing to close itself down. The radical move comes after the board of the trust rejected takeover advances from 3i, the development capital specialist.

The proposal, which will take up to five years to implement, was received angrily by many private investors who attended Electra's annual meeting yesterday. The move has grim implications for the investment trust sector, which has struggled to find favour in recent years, with trust shares traded at widening discounts to best asset values.

Michael Stoddart, the chairman of Electra, admitted: "The whole investment trust industry is under siege." Electra's move follows restructuring plans already launched by the Scottish Eastern Investment Trust and Anglo & Overseas Investment Trust.

Mr Stoddart proposed that Electra - which is worth about £1.2 million ~ should buy back up to 40 per cent of the trust's shares. The buyback will cost about £500 million and be funded on borrowed money. Electra has arranged to borrow an additional £250 million to fund continuing investment commitments and working capital.

sell its many shareholdings in unquoted companies which the trust owns. Proceeds will be used to pay back the debt. Once the debt is cleared surviving investors stand to receive further capital payments.

Electra also said: "Under current market conditions there are good prospects for attractive realisations from the portfolio over the next 12 to 18 months."

Mr Stoddart said that the plan had been developed to satisfy institutional investors, which speak for 80 per cent of the shares.

Electra has not ruled out the possibility that it may be bought outright. Unsubstantiated rumours have circulated that several US institutions may want to acquire it. It is understood that 3i remains interested but is concerned about overpaying. It has offered 705p a share. Yesterday, the shares rose 101/2p to 685p.

Mr Stoddart said "prelim-inary" interest had been shown by other, unnamed, purchasers. He also suggested that Electra Fleming, the fund management company half owned by Electra and half by Robert Fleming. the investment bank, may be sold separately.

He said: The board rejected 3i Group's widely reported approach on value grounds alone. The board is clear that it would only recommend an offer for the trust at an appropriate premium to its updated net as-

Tempus, page 30 City diary, page 31

Woolwich puts home loans in US venture

By CAROLINE MERRELL BANKING CORRESPONDENT

THE Woolwich is moving further away from its build-ing society roots through a joint venture with a big US financial services group which will eventually service and administer all its mortgages.

The joint venture, the first of its kind in the UK, is with Countrywide Credit Industries, the largest independent US mortgage lender and serv-icer. The Californian company operates a \$212 billion (£130 billion) portfolio of loans, and services more than two million homeowners in the US.

Through the company, John Stewart, Woolwich chief executive, said he wanted to securitise more of the bank's mortgages, which would lead to a

reduction in costs.

He said: "We will be able to offer long-term fixed-rate mortgages like they do in the States." From the end of next year, all Woolwich's new mortgages will go through the joint venture. Eventually the bank intends to service and administer its existing loans through the link up. Angelo Mozilo, Countrywide Credit Industries chief executive officer, said: "In the States we can turn round a loan in ten days, compared to

the 30 days that is the norm over there [in Britain]." He added: "From Country-wide's perspective, this joint venture provides new and diverse growth opportunities by tapping into markets outside

Borrowers in America benefit from long-term fixed-rate loans that carry no redemption penalties. Mr Stewart said the link-up would not lead to any redundancies among Woolhe trained on the new systems.

The new company was unveiled as the bank announced a 10 per cent increase in profits to £505 million, its first full year as a bank. The Woolwich said that it had managed to increase its share of the new mortgage market from 1 per cent at the start of the year to 5.9 per cent — a higher level than its total share of the mortgage market which is 5.4 per cent. The 1 per cent was artificially low because many bor-



Sir Brian Jenkins, left, chairman, and John Stewart, chief executive, yesterday reported a big leap in pre-tax profit

rowers had redeemed their mortgages as soon as they received their share windfall. dividend of 7.1p plus a special dividend of 15p per share. The bank still has about 1.3 million

The bank announced a final small shareholders who benefited from an average 657 share windfall at flotation. Mr Stewart said: "Taking the average share allocation of 657 free shares, shareholders received dividends of £105 for 1997, and we are proposing they receive

more than £168 for 1998." Mr Stewart also said that he had an entire team working on mergers and acquisitions. He said that he was particularly keen on making an acquisition in Europe, where consolidation in the banking sector has only just begun.

On merging with another bank or insurance company in the UK. Mr Stewart said the bank would be open to offers. "If someone had the same strategic objectives as us, we would

be interested." He said the bank had about £400 million that it could spend on acquisitions, but said it would return it to shareholders if a suitable purchase could not be found. Net lending in the UK grew from £758 million to £1.12 bil-

lion, while retail deposit balances fell from £595 million to £257 million, representing a fall in market share of 3.7 per cent to 3.5 per cent.

The bank managed to increase profits on its non-core businesses of life insurance. pensions, unit trusts, personal equity plans and independent financial advice. Profits on life insurance and pensions increased from £32 million to £34 million, profits on unit trusts and Peps rose from £17.8 million to £24.8 million, and profits from the independent financial advice arm rose from £18.8 million to £26 million.

> Commentary, page 29 Tempus, page 30

BP Amoco to shed 3,000 more jobs

By CARL MORTISHED INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS

BP AMOCO is laying off a further 3,000 staff in a defensive move aimed at protecting its earnings from the oil price squeeze that cut its fourthquarter profits by 59 per cent to \$524 million (£320 million). The company, formed by the takeover in January of Ameri-

ca's Amoco, is preparing to tackle the threat of low oil prices and disappearing chemical margins. Sir John Browne, BP Amoco's chief executive, said that the company would focus its efforts on generating cash and, like its more troubled rival Shell, he revealed a disposal programme and drastic cuts in spending that will shift invest-ment away from high-cost pro-duction areas, such as the North Sea and Alaska."Our intention is to be cash-neutral at

\$11 per barrel." BP Amoco is paying a final-quarter dividend of 10 cents a share (6.12p), up from 9.4 cents

in the previous year.

The company is cutting capital expenditure by \$3 billion to \$7 billion for the current year. Exploration budgets fall from \$950 million to \$500 million. Sir John said the focus in future would be on low-cost areas such as the Caspian, Angola, deep-water exploration in the Gulf of Mexico as well as gas in Trinidad, Disposals are expected to raise \$1 billion. BP profits this year will be hit by a \$1.5 billion charge to cover the cost of 7,000 jobs already cut and the 3,000 an-nounced yesterday. BP origi-nally indicated that the Amoco merger would result in 6,000 redundancies as duplication was removed but the need to cut costs has increased the toll.

pre-tax savings promised when the takeover was announced last August would be achieved within 12 months, a year ahead of the original target.

results was just 25 per cent, well short of the 40 per cent that the US company accounted for under the merger terms.

Commentary, page 29

Business Today

L'Enterprise culture Stock Market: Bid talk inspires Brent Equity price



Prescriptions for the NHS Lifestyle drugs and suitable cases

for treatment

LIS RATE

New York

Sir John said the \$2 billion in

Analysts speculate that Amoco's contribution to the 1998

かかか。 DOLLAR 2. 3.11 NORTH SEA OIL Brent15-day(Apr).. \$10.20 (\$10.30) EOFD London close ____ \$284.75 (\$285.25) " denotes midday trading prices

Jobless figures fall to lowest level since 1980

By Janet Bush, economics editor

BRITAIN continued to create jobs last month, despite the economic slowdown, with the claimant unemployment total falling to its lowest level since

The monthly claimant count fell 5,700 to 1,305,300, giving an unemployment rate of 4.6 per cent. There was also a decline in the Government's preferred way of accounting for the total. which includes those who are ineligible for benefit. This stood at 1,790,000 between October and December, down 15,000

from the previous quarter. Figures from the Office for National Statistics showed that the number of people in full and part-time jobs grew to 27.3 million in the last quarter of 1998, the highest total since records began in 1973.

Another sign of continuing robustness in the labour market came from vacancy figures. Notifications of new vacancies at jobcentres rose by 9,300 in January from 229,900 in December. This compares with a figure of 198,500 in Janu-

Richard Jeffrey, chief economist at the City firm Charterhouse, who has long argued that the economy is not nearly as fragile as many other commentators have suggested, said: "If the economy is so weak, why are vacancies so strong?" There were some signs of weakness in yesterday's fig-

ures including a fall in manufacturing jobs (offset by a large increase in service sector employment) and trade unions called for further cuts in interest rates. Their hopes were bolstered yesterday by the release of the minutes of the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee meeting two weeks ago, which showed the committee unanimously in favour of lower rates.

Eight out of the nine members were in favour of the cut of half a percentage point that was delivered, with one member - Willem Buiter - arguing for a three-quarter point fall in rates. Professor Buiter said he believed that the MPC had overestimated the strength of inflationary pressures in its

The majority of the committee said that a cut of 0.5 per cent would provide "some degree of insurance" against the economic outlook worsening.

Coats Viyella deal highlights plight of clothing sector

THE sorry state of Britain's clothing industry was further exposed yesterday when the stock market implied that the textiles businesses of the oncegreat Coats Viyella are practically worthless — or even a liability to shareholders.

The group, whose shares have slumped from the FTSE 100 to obscurity in recent years, yesterday sold one of its precision engineering busi-ness for £322 million in cash to Cinven, the venture capital group. The business, which started as a zip manufacturer. makes metal and plastic components for the likes of Gillette and Ford. It had profits of £35.4 million in 1997, on sales

Coats Viyella's remaining businesses include a thread maker, the Jaeger chain of clothes shops and clothing factories that supply Marks & Spencer.

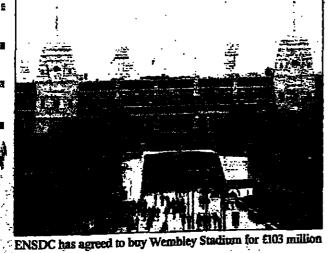
The sale is likely to be worth a net £270 million to £280 million to the group because it is taking on the engineering business's debt as part of the deal.

However, this net sale figure may be more than the market capitalisation of Coats Viyella in its entirety. The shares rose from 354p yesterday to 39p, valuing the group pre-disposal at just £274 million. The sale proceeds will go to reducing borrowings.



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American bidder aims for Wembley goal



BUGS BUNNY, David Beckham and Ken Bates, the irre-pressible chairman of Chelsea, are all set to play a part in an epic struggle over the future of Wembley Stadium. The battle lines were drawn

vesterday when Wembley, the listed company that owns the "Venue of Legends" said it has received a second bid approach.

Wembley plc already has one suitor in the shape of Enic. whose interests range from a 25 per cent stake in Rangers, the Glasgow football club, to the

UK marketing rights of Warn-

er Brothers cartoons. It said in

December that it was willing to

pay £250 million in cash and shares for the company. Wembley's new suitor is SFX — the US group that not only owns or operates 73 sporting and entertainment venues but also owns The Marquee Group, one of the world's largest sports management agen-

cies. In the UK, Marquee represents some of the country's top stars, including the England soccer trio of David Beckham, Michael Owen and Alan Shearer, SFX has not said how much it is willing to offer, or when it will make the bid, but its approach has already drawn the ire of Ken Bates.

Mr Bates is the chairman of the English National Stadium Development Company, the Football Association-backed body that has a deal to buy Wembley Stadium from Wembley for £103 million. The ENSDC has said it will tear down the stadium and rebuild

it at a cost of £120 million. This deal has yet to be ap-proved by Wembley shareholders, and three of its non-executive directors have voiced their opposition. An extraordinary meeting to decide the issue is

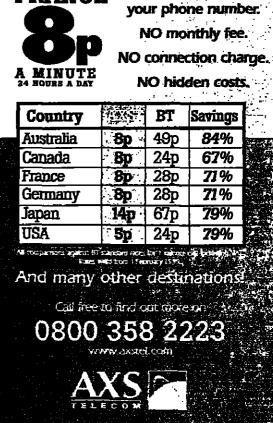
scheduled for next month. Mr Bates has said that if the stadium is not sold to the

the England internationals to other venues around the country, so depriving Wembley of much of its income. Neither Enic nor SFX would want to buy Wembley without

ENSDC, the FA will move all

the stadium, and it is understood that the Office of Fair Trading has been asked to look at whether the FA's threat on England games would constitute a restraint of trade.

The City has been unimpressed by the battle. Although it marked Wembley shares up 2lp to 3781/p yesterday, the stock remains 40p below Enic's indicative offer price.



Starwood seeks acquisition for UK launch

BY DOMINIC WALSH

STARWOOD Hotels & Resorts, owner of the Sheraton and Westin hotel chains, is seeking to bring its Four Points and W Hotels brands to the UK for the first time.

The US group, which was recently forced to surrender its tax-efficient status as a real estate investment trust (Reit) to become a normal corporation, yesterday said that it is on the hunt for existing groups that could be converted to the mid-market Four Points brand.

Bob Cotter, head of Starwood's Eu-

Sales of

modified

tomato

puree a

success

BY PAUL DURMAN

SAINSBURY'S and Safe-

way have sold 1.6 million

cans of genetically modi-

fied tomato puree in the past three years, it emerged yesterday.

Zeneca, which produced the modified tomatoes, said

cans of the GM product

had outsold conventional

tomato paste by two to one.

Sir David Barnes, chief ex-

ecutive, said there had been

However, it is believed

that sales of the puree at

Sainsbury's have dipped

sharply since the recent

Zeneca said it welcomed

the debate over the safety

of GM foods. Michael

Pragnell, chief executive of

Zeneca Agrochemicals,

said: "We think it impor-

tant that there be an open

debate so that consumers

can appreciate the benefits

that we believe will come

from this new technology

- for agriculture, for farm-

He added: "Consumers

are looking for some assur-

ances that these products

do offer the benefits that

are claimed and that they

are safe. The only way that

consumers will get that is through information and

through having choice."

ers and for consumers."

controversy blew up.

"not a single complaint".

going to approach Four Points on a one-off basis. We'd probably be looking for a group with at least 20 proper-ties. It could be a joint venture, it could be a franchise, or it could be an outright acquisition."

Juergen Bartels, chief executive of Starwood's hotel arm, said that the company was also actively seeking a site for its fledgeling W Hotels brand. an upmarket boutique-style concept aimed at business travellers. "London would be an ideal location for

The two men were speaking at the London launch of Starwood's innovative, new customer loyalty scheme. Starwood Preferred Guest, which has cost \$50 million (about £30 million) to develop and will be rolled out this year at a further cost of \$100 million.

The scheme will be backed up by a huge investment in staff training and an \$800 million refurbishment programme across the group's 200 owned hotels, which make up almost a third of its total worldwide portfolio. Mr Cotter said the new loyalty programme "takes away all the sins of the hotel rewards schemes" that prevented guests from cashing in their points at the busiest times of the "Members can redeem their

points where they want, when they want," he said.

Although the loss of its Reit status has badly dented Starwood's share price and its once-legendary financial muscle, Mr Bartels said it had sufficient resources to continue to develop its European presence. He said that it had just completed a \$42 million reno-vation of the Palace in Madrid and would soon be closing the Grand in Rome for a \$30 million revamp. Both are part of its Luxury Collection, a business it also hopes one day to bring to the UK through the acquisition of a landmark property in London. In the first half of last year, before

Congress brought in legislation affect-ing Reits. Starwood was cited as a po-tential bidder for virtually every sig-

nificant UK property or hotel group that came up for sale, including the Savoy Group and Gleneagles. Mr Bartels admitted that Starwood had been "very active" in pursuing the Sa-voy Group, but described the £520 million paid by Blackstone, the US investment firm, as "a very full price". He declined to comment on recent rumours that Starwood has been casting an eye over Dublin's Doyle Hotel Group, whose takeover talks with Jurys Hotel Group are running behind

Zeneca close to revealing buyer

ZENECA, whose shareholders vote today on its proposed £48 billion merger with Astra of Sweden, is close to announcing the buyer for its specialty chemicals business.

The sale of the business, which is expected to fetch up to £1.5 billion, will be announced in the next few weeks. BASF and Bayer of Germany, and Rohm & Haas of the US, are believed to be the most likely buyers of Zeneca's specialties division, which makes swimming pool sanitisers, colourants and dyes, and pharmaceutical and agrochemical intermediates.

A strong performance from

specialties was a highlight of Zeneca's last annual results before it completes the deal that will create AstraZeneca, which expects to be the world's thirdpharmaceuticals group. Recent improvements to the business enabled specialties to increase underlying operating profits by 21 per cent, although currencies and other factors reduced the reported total to ESS million, a 4 per cent

improvement.
The group as a whole report-The tomato puree sold ed a 2 per cent decline in pre-tax profits before one-off chargby the supermarket chains es to £1.06 billion. However, it cally modified - addressing one of the concerns of said that the strength of the pound had cut £131 million the biotechnology industry's critics. Zeneca used a from operating profits, which gene from another tomato were 15 per cent ahead on a to produce a denser fruit like-for-like comparison. Sir David Barnes, chief exec-

with less water, thus reducing waste in processing. utive, said he did not expect Zeneca is also working regulatory approval of the on disease-resistant banmerger to be unduly delayed by recent requests for additionanas, but these will not reach the shops for anothal information. Analysts said the results coner four years.

tained few surprises but expressed concern that the 14 per cent growth in underlying pharmaceutical sales was heavily dependent on older

> Tom McKillop, chief execu-tive of Zeneca Pharmaceuti-cals, and chief executive designate of AstraZeneca, said he was not disappointed by sales of Seroquel, the schizophrenia treatment whose sales reached £39 million last year, and Zomig, the migraine drug that generated £61 million.

> However, he acknowledged that the migraine market was growing more slowly than expected because doctors were reluctant to prescribe the latest generation products. preferring to send patients home with aspirin. He said: "It's actually bad medicine. It's not good for the patient, it makes the migraine worse and more

Pharmaceuticals contributed £815 million of profits, a 4 per cent improvement but a 15 per cent increase on a like-for-like basis. It contributed £2.8 billion of the group's £5.5 billion of sales.

Operating profits from agrocent to £216 million, hit by a collapse of herbicide sales in South-East Asia. However, fungicide sales grew by 45 per cent, led by the "outstanding success" of Amistar, whose sales grew to £177 million. Zeneca said like-for-like profits from agrochemicals were up 13 per cent. A second interim dividend

of 28p a share increases the to-Sorrell: fall in Asia Pacific not as bad as originally feared tal by 9 per cent to 42p.

WPP sees billings top £8bn for the first time

By Jason Nisse

WPP GROUP, which owns the advertising agencies J Walter Thompson and Ogilvy & Mather, saw its gross billings exceed £8 billion last year for the first time since it was formed in the mid-1980s. The group enjoyed a 9.8 per

cent growth in income despite difficult trading conditions in Asia and Latin America, two if its most important markets. Martin Sorrell, chief executive, said that the fall in business in Asia Pacific was not as bad as had been feared. India and Taiwan were both surpris-

ingly strong while Thailand

Singapore had shown signs of recovery. '
However, WPP is still experiencing problems in Latin America where it has been ex-panding, though largely in Ar-gentina, which is more stable

than Brazil at the moment. WPP's growth came on the back of good performances in Europe, the UK and the US, with the group's information and consultancy side a star performer with a 26 per cent

Overall, the company saw pre-tax profits rise 20 per cent to £213 million. Earnings per share rose 20 per cent to 18.8p and there is to be a 20 per cent increase in the final dividend to 1.72p, making a total of 2.56p, also up a fifth.

Despite these strong fig-ures, WPP shares fell 184p to profits after a strong rise in WPP shares from a low of 202p last year.

Mr Sorrell said that prospects for this year were good, with operations likely to receive boosts from the US presidential election and the Svdney Olympics, which both take place next year.

Tempus, page 30 City Diary, page 31

M&C Saatchi wins BT deal

M&C SAATCHI, the advertising agency formed by Lord Saatchi after he was ousted from Saatchi & Saatchi, has won £80 million of business from BT as part of the telecoms company's shake-up of

its advertising accounts. However, Abbott Mead Vickers, the agency which has held the UK's largest advertising account for more than four years, has held on to more than half of the business.

BT spends more than £60 million a year on advertising. In its review of its need for the next four years it has split the account into three parts. The largest, worth up to £40 million a year, will stay with AMV. This means that campaigns such as It's Good To Talk and Thousands Are Com-

ing Back To BT will continue. The success in retaining most of the BT account will come as a relief to Omnicom, the US media services company in the midst of buying AMV.

The account to sell BT's advanced data services to "senior decision-makers", which makes up more than half the group's business, is to go to M&C. This is estimated to be worth about £20 million a year. A third account, aiming to

bring in young customers, is expected to be awarded next week. This business, worth just £5 million a year, has attracted bids from five agencies - AMV, Duckworth Finn Grubb Waters, St Lukes, HHCL and Weedon & Kennedy. Duckworth Finn is tipped as the likely winner.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Accounting reform delayed by bug

FEAR of computer breakdowns at the millennium will delay enforcement of a new accounting reform. Financial Reporting Standard 15, Tangible Fixed Assets, obliges quoted companies to depreciate the properties they use as well as their companies to the properties they use as well as their computer networks. It also insists that they revalue assets regularly or not at all. The relorms brought in by the new accounting standard will force top retail chains, pub and hotel groups and high street banks to make widespread changes to their accounting systems. Those most affected have appealed to the Accounting Standards Board not to put more stress on their systems ahead of the millennium, so the new rule will only be compulsory for accounting periods ending after March 22, 2000, a much longer run-in period than usual.

sir David Tweedie, the board's chairman, said the new standard would close loopholes. "It will put to an end the absurd practice of revaluing only when convenient and carrying assets in the accounts for years at revaluations that fail to reflect significant falls in value in the hope that the falls will not prove permanent. Withful this line is not an account he account he prove permanent. Wishful thinking is not an acceptable accounting practice," he said.

Commentary, page 29

EC inquiry timetable

AN INVESTIGATION into alleged collusion by banks on charges for exchanging euros could take up to three weeks. the European Commission said yesterday. On Tuesday EC officials raided eight banks in France. Germany and Italy, seizing documents relating to foreign exchange transactions. If the Commission can prove the cartel allegations, it could levy fines up to a maximum of 10 per cent of a bank's turnover. Customers who suffered as the result of such a cartel could also claim damages in national courts.

Milner on the rise

MILNER ESTATES, the property company whose chairman is John Ritblat, reported a rise in pre-tax profits to £3.4 million from £2.7 million in the half year to November 30. Earnings were 5.6p a share, against 10p previously. The interim dividend rises to 1.42lp a share from 1.386p. The shares rose 104p to 245p yesterday. Milner said that it had made savings of 40 per cent on administrative expenses after the acquisition of two property companies, leading to an annualised cost reduction of £2 million.

Power report awaited

OFFER, the UK electricity regulator, is close to making a statement on how it will deal with unacceptably high electricity pool prices. Callum McCarthy, Director-General of electricity supply, announced on January 27 that he was investigating manipulation of pool prices by the generators. A statement is expected tomorrow or Monday. The pool pricing system, under which prices paid to all generators are set at the highest price bid, is already under review after a government decision lefter from April 2000. modity price-based system is due to take effect from April 2000.

Hall urges rejection

HALL ENGINEERING, the diversified engineering group. has urged its shareholders to reject the offer from rival TT Group, describing it as "an opportunistic attempt to acquire the company on the cheap". Hall rejected last month's 97p-per-share offer, valuing the company at £52 million. It has also declared a final dividend of 0.625p for the year to December 31, maintaining the total at 10.4p. John Newman. TT's executive chairman, described the document as "a typical, foreseeable response".

Fears on Hoechst deal

THE proposed merger of Rhône-Poulenc of France and Germany's Hoechst to form one of Europe's biggest chemicals companies has been called into question by the Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC), the largest single shareholder in Hoechst with a 24.5 per cent stake. Yesterday Sheikh Saud Nasser al-Sabah, the Kuwait Oil Minister who also heads the kPC, said: "This merger does not serve our interests." Hoechst and Rhône-Poulenc had announced they would merge their life sciences businesses into a firm called Aventis.

Vanguard application

VANGUARD MEDICA, the drug development company, has applied for European marketing approval for its migraine drug. It has submitted its filing on frovatriptan to the French regulatory authority, which will play the lead role under Europe's mutual recognition procedure. Vanguard's shares were unchanged at 152½p. Shareholders have been disappointed that Vanguard chose Elan Corporation of Ireland as its marketing partner for frovatriptan in North America. It has still to secure a European marketing deal.

Virgin invests in Net

VIRGIN is to invest £50 million in its Virgin Net Internet service, the company announced yesterday. Virgin Net's 150,000 current subscribers will be able to take the free service from April and other subscribers will be able to join up in May. As with other free Internet services, customers will still have to pay their telephone bills for time spent on-line. The announcement comes only days after BT began offering a free Internet service. Dixons, the retailer, has proved to be one of the most successful free access providers, attracting more than one million subscribers.

Bulmer to sparkle

HP BULMER, the cidermaker, said yesterday that the second half of the year would be buoyed by "extremely good" sales over the crucial Christmas period. In October, the company gave a cautious view of its prospects after a disastrous December the previous year. However, Mike Hughes, chief executive, said that his fears had proved unfounded and he felt confident of a good full-year performance. Analysts are expecting pre-tax profits of just over £23 million for the year to April 30, up from £22.1 million last time.

Ethical investors turn spotlight on GM foods

By Susan Emmett

BRITISH and European companies potentially caught up in the genetically modified food furore have been identified in research by an ethical investment organisation. The threat of litigation, however, has prevented publication of

A study conducted by the Ethical Investment Research Service (Eiris) has identified companies involved in genetic engineering, in an attempt to enable investors to screen manufacturers and retailers according to their food-labelling policies and attitudes towards avoiding genetically modified food. Fears of ending up in the

libel courts have prevented Eiris from publishing the list and publicly naming any com-





panies, Iceland, the retailer led by Malcolm Walker, is the only exception. It was quoted as an example of best practice

for its commitment to avoid-

ing genetically modified ingredients in its own-brand foods. Further information on individual companies is available from Eiris but investors will be required to sign a contract outlining their reasons for wanting the data.

Karen Eldridge, head of client services at Eiris, said: *Our information is only for investment purposes. Eiris does not engage in campaigning." The study is the culmination of research into company re-

ports, government figures and Eiris's own questionnaire. completed by 40 companies. Ms Eldridge said: "Clients can develop a policy that meets their own needs. Some may take a 'best of sector' ap-

GM regulations, page 10

Leicester City on end of bid

LEICESTER CITY, the Premiership football club. has received a bid approach from one of its former directors. John Sharp (Jason Nissé writes).

The approach, made on Tuesday, is believed to be supported by Tom Smeaton, the group's former chief executive who was ousted in controversial circumstances last year. The bid is expected to value the club at about £20 million.

The club is currently trying to gain permission to move to a new, purpose-built stadium. However, the plans have faced opposition and the scheme is likely to be passed to the Department of the Environment. Transport and the Regions for a final decision. Leicester shares rose 5p to 42/2p yesterday.

Loftus Road with £4m

CHRIS WRIGHT, the music multimillionaire, is prepared to stump up nearly £4 million to provide working capital for Loftus Road, the Queens Park Rangers football and Wasps rugby club combine listed on the Alternative Investment Market. Loftus Road said yesterday that it is seeking to raise £2.3 million, after expenses, by way of an open offer of 20 million new shares issued at 13p a share, fully underwritten by Wright who holds 25 per cent of the

company. Mr Wright, the compa-

ny's chairman, will also make a £1.4

million loan available, the company

Just last Friday, Mr Wright an-nounced that he had raised £5.6 million through the sale of shares in Chrysalis, taking his stake in the media group where he is also chairman down to below 30 per cent.

The cash-raising exercise comes as the company reported pre-tax losses of £3.87 million in the six months to November 30, on turnover down sharply at E2.81 million, from E4.31 million. Millwall, another quoted club,

said it is seeking to raise £300,000 with the issue of 30 million new shares at 1p each to fund the development of young players.



Wright prepared to back | Heinz means to make UK centre for Europe business

FROM ANDREW BUTCHER IN NEW YORK

HJ HEINZ, the giant US food group, plans to make Britain the Harlesden, northwest London, which employs 450 people, is be-lieved to be at risk. Heinz emcentre of its European operations as part of a vast global restructuring announced yesterday.

Heinz is also to sell its Weight Watchers dieting centres, whose most recent advertising campaign centred on the dicting

achievements of the Duchess of The company plans to cut its global workforce by 4,000. In Europe seven of its 21 factories will be closed, although Heinz did not disclose where the cuts will fall. In the UK a Heinz factory at

ploys a total of 3,200 staff in the UK. Other plants are at Kitt Green near Wigan, Kendal in Cumbria, Telford, Redditch in shire and Liverpool. William Johnson, the company's chief executive officer, said changes outlined yesterday would enable European factories to boost production by 20 per cent. As part of the cost cutting, Heinz will scrap 12 of its 24 styles of tomato sauce bottle it sells in

The sale of the Weight Watchers diet centre chain is a crucial plank of the restructure. The com-pany has not said whether it has lined up a buyer for the internationally famous diet group.

Mr Johnson said Heinz would

sell Weight Watchers to concen-trate on its traditional food businesses, especially tomato sauce, frozen foods, tuna, soups, infant foods and pet foods.

Heinz business in Europe is worth \$2.5 billion (£1.6 billion) annually, accounting for about 25 per cent of the company's global

EXCHANGE RATES

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C ir John Browne wields a fearsome axe. The dramatic downsizing of BP Amoco is a fine indication that, had he not opted for a career in the oil indus-try, he would have made a forture as a lumberjack. He is ruth-lessly chopping out the dead-wood in the merged business even before the last rites had

been administered to whole tiers of management.

The result is that the massive savings projected from the merger will be realised a year ahead of the original schedule. That is just as well since income is proving harder to come by, with the oil price mired at its lowest for 25 years and worldwide demand for Amoco's chemicals hardly thriving. With no early upturn in the marketplace in sight, the two companies will be much stronger

The creation of BP Amoco, now Britain's biggest company, was Sir John's determined response to the inhospitable conditions. There may be some who look at Amoco's contribution to the profit pot and cavil that he may have paid a little too much for the business but if BP had hesitated, it feared that one of the United States oil giants would have swallowed Amoco. Sir John was not going to jeopardise his

tanker for a happorth of tar.

A similar sense of conviction that it is the right thing to do seems to be missing from that other, rather smaller, mooted oil

merger. It was early January when word seeped out that Lasmo and Enterprise were in talks. Since then, nothing has been heard of Lenterprise.

The two companies are continuing to pore over each other's books but without any obvious enthusiasm. If the talks are leading nowhere, then they will soon have to own up, probably before Lasmo reports its figures next

That will not be a happy occasion for the company. Lasmo will have no option but to take some rather painful writedowns against assets acquired when the oil price was near its peak and it might have been better if it could have jollied investors along with more upbeat talk of its own version of BP Amoco. But not even Sir John Browne would be able to find scope for huge cost cutting if the two were to merge. Lasmo has already had to slash its overheads. The savings from a merged head office would not be

enough to justify the deal.

If there was logic in the thought of putting the two explorers together, it was that their port-folios would provide some geographic balance. The response from investors has indicated that

L'Enterprise culture



COMMENTARY by our City Editor

in these markets, they feel happier with Big Oil than small, even if better balanced. If a major could be encouraged to take over Lasmo and Enterprise, the institutions would be in favour. Such an arrangement would also solve the problem of whether Pierre Jungels, of Enterprise, or Joe Darby, of Lasmo, would be the

boss of L'Enterprise. Sir John Browne never had any doubts on that count. Woolwich bolsters

its arsenal

n Woolwich town centre, the charity shops now almost outnumber the mainstream retailers. The local building society, however, has thrown off its south-east London origins and turned into a pioneer of the financial services world.

As soon as it packed up its headquarters and moved to suburban Bexleyheath, it was clear

that the Woolwich had ambitions. First it turned itself into a bank, then came expansion into Europe and now we have a joint venture with a racy Californian outfit. Can it be long before perfect United States teeth will smile and proclaim "We're with the Woolwich"?

"Nous sommes au Woolwich" is what John Stewart wants to hear more of before that. He believes that his deal with Countrywide Credit will provide him with the basis on which to be a more competitive provider of

mortgages across Europe.

There is certainly scope for improvement. Americans who find themselves relocated to Britain are completely bemused by the extraordinarily complicated and long winded procedure which has to be endured in order to buy a house. Even if the Woolwich initiative fails to provide much cheaper mortgages — and while borrowers may hope that margin improvements are passed on

to them, shareholders would approve of the bank pocketing them - it may lead to a speedie service and that alone should be enough to win customers.

The British workforce has proved a peculiarly immobile one, not least because of the difficulties involved in buying and selling property. If the process could be made easier, people might be more inclined to follow the work rather than sit in the home they struggled to buy, waiting for yet another new call centre to be built. There is still enormous scope

for innovation in the financial services sector. The response to Prodential's Egg account has shown the public's appetite for new products if effectively marketed, and, in that case, also offering an exceptionally good return. Mr Stewart has been quietly

winning customers for the Woolwich's Open Plan, which can combine a mortgage with a cur-rent account. Barclays' idiotically named b2 has, by comparison.

failed to excite the punters. The Woolwich under John Stewart is proving to be one of the more forward looking banks. It would not be surprising if, as inevitable consolidation looms. his bigger rivals begin to take more notice.

Accounting abuses die to live again

romulgation of the drily titled Financial Reporting Standard 15 is a milestone in accounting. Sir David Tweedie, chairman of the Accounting Standards Board, argues that it deals with the last of the flagrant abuses that led to the board being set up in 1990.

No longer can companies revalue their properties in good times then claim in bad times that falls in market value are temporary. Many big names in retail must also get used to the idea that their premises depreciate, even if inflation and improvements keep their market value up. Watch out for much defensive talk about purely technical

charges from next year. Now the ASB has new issues

to ponder, such as accounting for derivatives and executive options. The world has also moved

on for regulators.
Under Sir Bryan Carsberg the International Accounting Standards Committee has just rushed out its own set of standards to meet a deadline set by securities regulators. It caters for emerging nations and aims to create a pass port for shares to be quoted round the world. Only America is resisting. These IASC standards might spread. The European Commission was persuaded not to have its own standard by being given a seat at the IASC. Now EU harmonisation on IASC standards is on the agenda. That sounds fine, except that they would re-open abuses, especially in takeovers, that we have just gone to such trouble to close.

It never rains ...

IT MIGHT not be the obvious shop of choice for City folk in search of floor coverings but it seems that Allied Carpets customers are close followers of the stock market. According to the company, the bid talk that swirled around it recently deterred shoppers, contributing to the near-obliteration of first-half profits. Retailers are adept at finding excuses for poor performance but this is an imaginative new one, sure to be copied. When the weather cannot explain lousy sales, the City pages will now be cited.

Allied lays out recovery proposals

INVESTORS in Allied Carpets were yesterday given a six-point recovery plan by the beleaguered company's management who admitted that the business's worsening fortunes had not been helped by the directors taking "our eye off the hall".

The stock market was left unconvinced, however, as after it digested poor interims and even worse January sales figures, Allied shares slipped back to near their all-time lows, falling 54:p to 384:p.

The company reported half-year pre-tax profits for the peri-od ended December 26 of just £59,000 on sales of £136 million. The previous year it made profits of £12.5 million before taking an exceptional charge of mous five-year sales account-ing irregularities. It was this plus a trading warning last May that precipitated the crash in the shares which two years ago were at 320p after

floating in 1996 at 215p.
The collapse in Allied's interim profits was put down to a mixture of the state of the UK

economy and to the number of takeover offers received - notably from Alchemy, the venture capitalist, which talked around an offer of 67p.

Ray Nethercott, managing director, said: "For four months at our busiest time of the year our time was taken up with these talks. They were hugely distracting. Yes, we took our eye off the ball."

Like-for-like sales were down 9 per cent in the period as, said the company, Allied's key customer base was preoc-cupied with fears of recession. Allied said things did not im-

prove in the January sales with a 13 per cent decline year-onyear, though February so far is showing 2 per cent growth.

Mr Nethercott's six-point

plan to resuscitate the firm's fortunes will centre on further disposals of loss-making activities. It also includes proposals for eight store closures in the year with 11 relocations among its 210-strong portfolio.

Allied is paying a much-re-duced interim dividend of 0.5p

E*Trade expands service

FROM ANDREW BUTCHER IN NEW YORK

E*TRADE, the booming Internet broker, moved further into i the territory of traditional brokerages when it gained approval to offer mutual fund services to its army of online traders.

The third-biggest online broker will have E*Trade-brand-

ed index funds that will be managed by Barclays Global Fund Advisors, according to filings with the US Securities & Exchange Commission. Barclays will be paid most

of the management fees E*Trade charges to manage the mutual funds. In an attempt to keep down costs, E*Trade said that only customers willing to have reports sent soley by e-mail would be able to invest in its mutual funds. E-Trade has already expanded into bond trading, as well as mortgage and insurance information. Shares in E*Trade have more than doubled this year, although a recent computer glitch that affected some trades saw the shares fall 30

per cent in a few days.

RJB makes revised pay offer

By OUR INDUSTRIAL STAFF

HOPES of averting the first miners strike in Britain for 15 years grew last night as it emerged that RJB, the coun-try's largest coal producer, had gone back to union leaders with a revised pay offer. Last week, a poll of the Un-

ion of Democratic Mineworkers showed 56 per cent in fa-your of industrial action after the company offered a five-year deal of inflation minus i per cent. While RJB confirmed that it had come back with a new offer, the company declined to elaborate.

RJB has been in talks with the UDM, which represents 4,500 colliery workers, all this week. The UDM plans to go on strike from next Monday. Union officials refused to comment on the new offer.

The more hardline National Union of Mineworkers, which represents 2,500 miners within RJB, has this week been voting on whether to take strike action. The results of that ballot will not be known until next month.

Northern troubles hit Slug & Lettuce

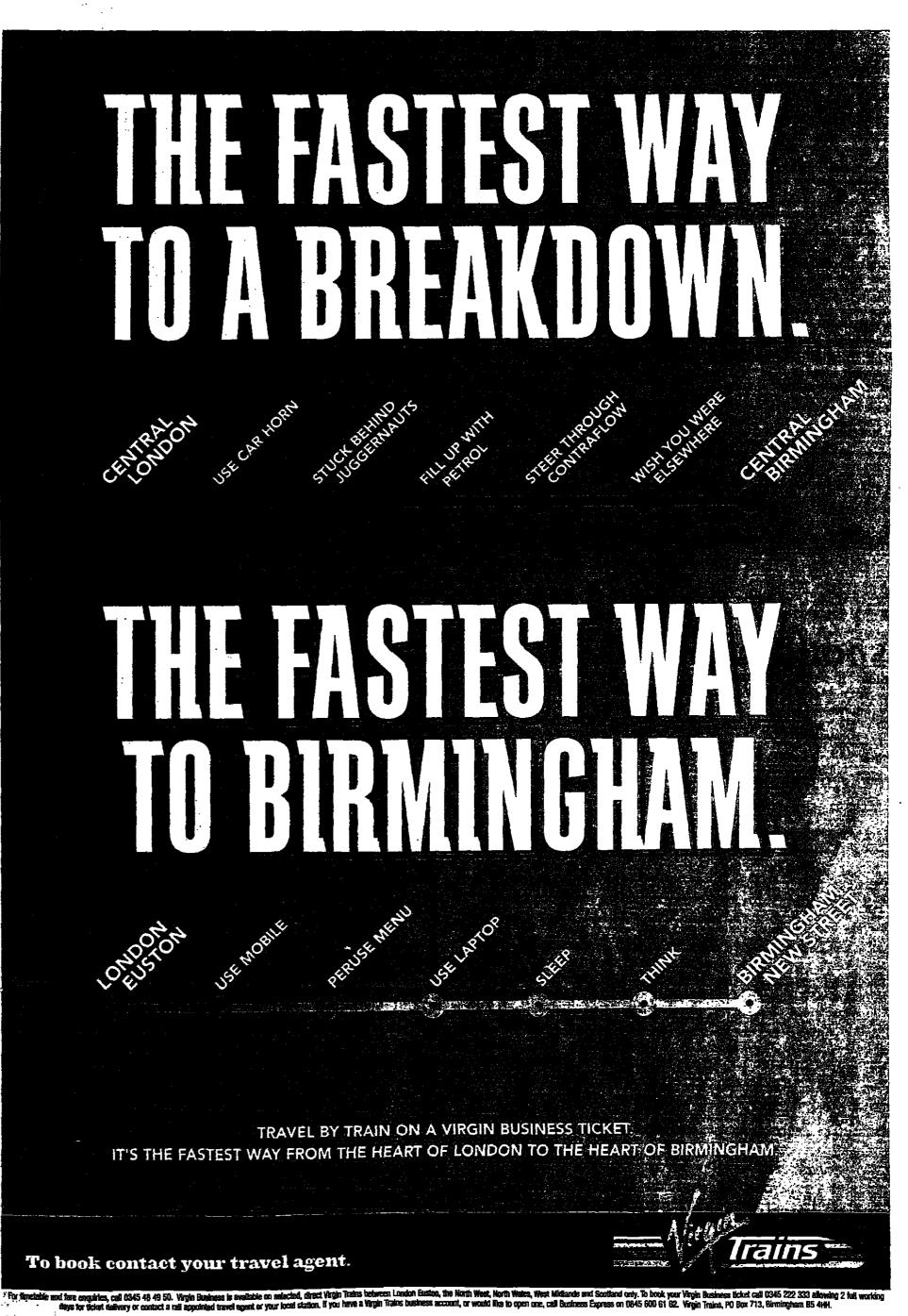
SHARES in Stug & Lettuce, the trendy pub operator, dived 2 12 per cent yesterday after the group gave warning of poor trading in the North of England (Dominic Walsh writes). The news sent its shares 22p lower to 160%p, valuing the 31-strong chain at just £22.8 million, and pub sector watchers

immediately cited the company as a likely takeover target. One analyst said: "They have a good brand which would be attractive to the likes of Whitbread. At the moment its bal-

ance sheet is under pressure but the extra firepower of one of the big boys would solve that."

Although it lifted operating profits from continuing operations by 39 per cent to £1.24 million in the half year to November 27, its sites in Leeds, Nottingham. Manchester, York and Harrogate made a combined loss of £140,000.

After a slow start, like-forlike sales in the second quarter were 5 per cent up and had continued strongly. The interim dividend is held at 3.025p.





FRASER NELSON

Positive reaction to bid talk inspires Brent price

lieved to be in the final stages of takeover talks and may soon bow to a £95 million bid. according to City dealers who

The chemicals company which was holding a board meeting last night — is understood to be deciding between two separate takeover offers from Germany and the US.

Its shares jumped 9 per cent to 110:ep in exceptionally heavy trading of 2.15 million shares. On a normal day, about only 180,000 of its shares change hands. One dealer said: "We've

been waiting for the bid for weeks, but now demand for the shares has gone wild so it looks like it's finally going to

Some are buying in the belief that Keith Hutchings, chief executive, has haggled the asking price up to 140p a share in a cash hid

He has already sold its imaging division to Weir Group to appease Phillips & Drew, the fund manager, which has a reputation for barrering takeovers. It owns 23.7 per cent of Brent's

shares. A deal is expected soon. Blue chips slid back into retreat yesterday, after an aitempt at a mid-afternoon rally was scuppered by a weak open-ing on Wall Street. The FTSE 100 index closed 30.2 points lower at 6.078.4.

Cadbury Schweppes was its best performer, adding 51p to £10.01 amid being recrowned a "star performer" by Merrill Lynch. It has high hopes for Cadbury's year-end results next Wednesday.

The Woolwich was one of the few banking stocks to perform well, up 19 ap to 384 ap after turning in its results.

But the rest of the banking sector was in sharp decline, with 12 of its 18 constituents losing ground as dealers decided now was the time to capitalise on the excellent run of the past few weeks. NatWest was off 55p to

E13.24, Bank of Scotland fell 314:p to 878p and the Royal Bank of Scotland shed 34p to Railtrack was the worst blue

chip performer, as the debut of its new bonds was marked by a 5 per cent fall in its shares. They closed at £14.59. P&O was also badly hit.

down 16p to 680p, amid City fears that there is no chance of

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Alun Cathcart saw Avis shares surge on hopes that the car rental group will report exceptionally strong profits next week

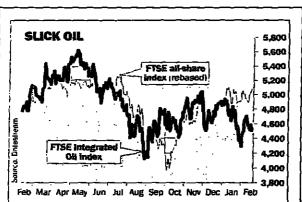
reprieve for the duty-free shop-ping system which is due to be killed off by the European

Commission in July. BAA, however, was 2p bet-ter at 720 p yesterday. If dutyfree shopping is abolished, landing charges will be raised and dealers think this will more than compensate.

Avis Europe shares jumped 5.4 per cent on heavy demand of 3.55 million shares.

Word is that the car rental group, whose chairman and chief executive is Alun Cathcart, will report exceptionally strong profits next Wednesday well in excess of the £95.7 million City consensus.

For the past four months. Avis's shares have been bouncing between a glass wall of 220p and 265p. They added 12p to



ALTHOUGH oil prices are showing no signs of com-ing back to life, the three biggest oil companies seem to have weathered the recent stock market storms.

The FTSE integrated oil index — made up from BP Amoco. Shell and KBC Advanced Technology - has FTSE All-share index.

In the past year this index has fallen by 5 per cent, while the oil exploration and production sector with its 27 companies — has plunged by 59 per cent.

The likes of BP Amoco offer protection because they sell chemicals, bringing ex-posure to a different cycle. When pushed, they can also merge with each other and axe thousands of marketing

staff around the world. The low-budget oil production companies, by con-L nave iewer costs to cui and nowhere to run. have both softened recently.

Treasury 8 per cent 2 ed £0.25 to £151.72 but they have still fared far ☐ NEW YORK: Sha mixed in choppy r trade. By midday th better than the producers and still represent the safest Jones industrial average way into the oil sector. up 38.39 at 9,335.42.

Tokyo: 14158.67 (-73.97) Hong Kong: Hang Seng **Amsterdam:** AEX index Frankfurt: DAX Singapore: Shals — -3375 08 (-28 29) porters think another 30p could ne added in the next ten days. Zurich: Sidlaw Group became the lat-est member of the paper and SKA Gen packaging sector to admit to bid London: talks. Its shares added 231:p to FT 30 __. FTSE 100 137p: dealers are talking of a bid between 140p and 160p. Leicester City's late admission of an "informal and unsolicited" bid saw its shares marked 5p higher to 4214p. There is hope that John SEAQ Volume Sharp, a local businessman, is thought to have backing for a . 0.6968 (+0.0023 50p-a-share bid. Tom Smeaton.

who brought the club to the mar-

ket, is also thought to be in-

volved. However, many dealers

were steering clear and hardly

Nomura. The broking house

tipped Shield at 50p a share.

and is now saying that it be-lieves the stock could reach £27

British Biotech had anoth-

er miserable day, off another

10 per cent to 20p. Simon Cawkwell, the bear

raider known to dealers as Evi

Knevil, has been keeping quiet

a share if it agrees a merger.

RECENT ISSUES

MAJOR INDICES

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any shares changed hands. With new bidders lurking in	RECENT 19	SUES	
the wings for Wembley Group shares were up 2ip to 3784p. Three of its non-executive directors were previously receptive to last month's offer from ENIC, off 4sp at 984p. In the biotech world, Shield Diagnostics was up 74p to 475p on fresh "buy" advice from	AllA VCT Abbey Nati Dublin In: Acom Income Fund BFS Oseas Inc & Gwith Ca BFS Oseas Inc & Gwith Inc Close Bros Dev VCT Gander Properties Jupiter En Zero Dv Pl Jupiter Entlanced Inc		

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TEMBUS

Electra flying

SHAREHOLDERS in Electra Investment Trust, the venture capital fund, have an excellent opportunity to realise a good profit. Yesterday's restructuring proposals give inves-tors the chance to sell at least part of their holdings at something like net asset value. Subsequently the trust will be liquidated and the proceeds handed back to shareholders. The plan is a good one, developed in difficult circumstances, but the dynamics of investment trusts suggest that shareholders should look to get

out entirely, sooner rather than later.
Investors of a more nervous disposition may care to sell in the market now. At 685p the stock is within a few pence of its peak and most should be sitting on handsome profits. Optimistic guesses are that the immediate cash exit price, facilitated through a tender offer, could come in at as much as 730p. But then

again it may not. Also, investors stand to earn more than the current market value if a bidder creeps out of the woodwork but, again, a

bidder may not emerge.

Those hoping to benefit from bumper rerurns over the five-year realisation period should think twice. Yes, achieved exit prices have been superior to stated net asset values in the past, but once the fund is in run-off the motivation to press for top dollar is lessened. Debt taken on to fund the tender offer, plus interest on that debt, will also cut into returns. Meanwhile, there is precious little reason to believe that the net asset value discount will not widen, rapidly and substantially, after the tender.

Tempus made Electra one of its shares for 1999, Recommended at 5474p, an exit with a 25 per cent plus uplift inside three months is possible. Do not miss the boat.

Woolwich

WOOLWICH is showing signs that it can shine. The qualities remain largely undis-covered, but there is strength in this mortgage bank which is belied by the staid share price performance.

As the chart shows, the shares have more or less kept pace with the average since just after it joined the stock market in July 1997. If you go back to include the somewhat aberrant first day closing price, the performance looks

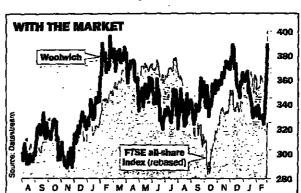
quite dismal. Yet Woolwich has quietly but successfully, got on with the development of its business. It has increased its share of the mortgage market in the teeth of savage competition from the new mortgage players and the mutuals with their range of discounted products. It has cut a profitable niche

from savings and investment

business, and the Open Plan wide will infuse consumercredit card/overdraft/mortgage product shows its will-ingness to innovate. And all the time a firm hand has kept costs under control.

The link with Countrywide is the kind of deal that should raise Woolwich's profile. It broaden its horizons. Country- dinary payments. Buy.

attractive mortgage varieties and give Woolwich added impetus to push into Europe.
Woolwich shares are set to break out of the unexciting trading range investors have so far witnessed. It seems that Woolwich will pay more spealso shows that Woolwich is cial dividends, too, declared using its market quote to alongside perfectly healthy or-



WPP

LIKE a stuck record, Martin Sorrell's constant harping on about margins in the advertising industry can get on one's nerves. For investors in his company, WPP, the loss of big clients can also be worrying. But the fact is that cost savings always brings bottom-line benefits, and while WPP agencies have waved goodbye to some business from Ford and Kellogg's in the past year, they have also welcomed Merrill Lynch, Sie-mens and IBM to the fold.

Annual figures out yesterday exceeded City expectations by just enough to justify the share price, which has recovered impressively from a late summer low. Since invesjoyed a 140 per cent rise, it is not surprising that there was some profit-taking once the figures came out.

Back then, lears of an Asian meltdown pulled the rug from under market per-

TOLLAR BATES

ceptions of WPP. Those worries were overdone: WPP can expect quite a good year this year, with a steady recovery in Asia and strong growth in the US. Latin America continues to perturb, but this is a pretty small part of the cake.

Best of all. Mr Sorrell remains pugnacious about costs. And as he points out, the most successful advertising groups pay more attention to the bottom line than to the vagaries of who is or is not in fashion in ad-land.

WPP is in good shape go-ing forward. But the share price is up with events. Hold.

Coats Viyella COATS VIYELLA has got a good price for its precision engineering arm. Fortunately, Dynacasi is not to be entirely dependent on the battered tex-

tiles industry for its living, so Coats has got a decent sum. But the sale price has served to highlight the awful state of

Coats's other businesses.

and a Marks & Spencer clothing supplier - are valued at al-most exactly nothing by the stock market. Coats will get £270 million to 280 million for Dynacast once debt is factored in. With a 3%p rise in the share price to 39p yesterday, Coats's entire market capital-

isation stands at £275 million. Textiles firms are in poor shape. Coats's history this decade has been one of steady decline. The group has been hit by the strong pound, the lowering of profit mar-gins of its output, strong competition from producers in developing countries and price cutting in the high street.

There is little bid hope. Textile company acquirers have their own problems coping with similar difficulties. It is ing all the time. The Dynataken as an opportunity - if it is still needed - to bale out of Coats.

EDITED BY ROBERT COLE

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anguage is everything in matters of food. Debate on genetically modified foods has been dismissed as a "food scare" by those who wish it would go away. Consumers have again heard that heart-sinking phrase "there is no evidence", sometimes alarmingly modified to no clear,

convincing or conclusive evidence. Ministers are unwise to claim that foodstuffs are "safe", a deeply unscientific term. Their dogmatic insistence that we rely on science, and therefore on evidence to disprove a proposition, is entirely logical. They have little alternative, other than to admit their own impotence retrospectively to those who voted them into office.

Britain has given up any national right to ban planting of GM crops or import of products made from them to the European Union. Even if it had not, the "right" would be limited in an open global economy. The EU, like any member of the World Trade Organisation, must take those decisions on scientific evidence.

Some planting of transgenic

Consumers must rely on themselves corn in Europe was agreed last lobbying, GM crops are the bigyear. Novartis, the Swiss group, and America's Monsanto await

only the seemingly inevitable outcome of French legal challenges. Foods modified through biotechnology are also right at the top of the world's trade agenda. Last year the WTO ruled that the EU could not legitimately ban imports of American beef produced with bovine growth hormone. The EU has until May to comply.

Charlene Barshefsky, America's aggressive Trade Representative, says she will not brook delay. The bizarre banana war, in which about £100 million of UK exports face being barred from their US markets, is just a rehearsal for beef. Last week American food authorities gave the go-ahead for irradiation of beef. It is sure to become another bone of contention. Thanks in part to Monsanto

gest trade issue. That emerges clearly from Congressional hearings on US-EU trade last July.

The Transatlantic Agenda talks that were started in 1995 worked towards mutual recognition of standards in sectors such as telecoms. drugs and medical devices. America wants to extend this to food. Last May the Transatlantic Eco-

nomic Partnership was launched to pre-empt US/EU conflicts, thrash out key trade issues and foist agreements on the rest of the world. Food safety and biotechnology top the US agenda. America will also host a new

WTO trade intiative this year, aiming at another round of liberalisation. America wants to "ensure that farmers can use safe, advanced scientific techniques, in-Barshefsky says. "We have a per-



sistent problem with Europe on trade in bio-engineered or genetically modified products." Others predict a trade war over the issue. America says trade restrictions should be based openly on scientic evidence. "There is an increasing

tendency in Europe not to regard

science as even relevant," the US

Deputy Commerce Secretary ar-

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Sectors where America maintains protection, such as shipping and air transport, rarely feature in trade talks. US priorities do. The chief one is to get a better deal for its own agriculture, which is phasing out subsidies and needs new markets to compensate. Already, a quarter of US corn. cotton and soya bean output is transgenic. At least, you may think, Britons

or Europeans can decide on environmental grounds whether to grow transgenic crops. But even that will not easily be achieved by eovernment dictat.

Trade in food needs to be more open, to unrayel the web of subsidy and distortion that undermines development and cuts living standards. The main attraction of growing GM crops is that yields are higher, typically by 30 per cent. If

gues. "It's sort of policy by public opinion." The case is hard to resist. Americans plant more GM seeds but they are not allowed in Europe, then European farmers will become uncompetitive in a rising number of bulk crops.

Open trade in Europe or globally undermines national governments, the main focus of democracy, and our touching faith in them to fulfil our wishes. But it does lead to common testing of the quality and safety of traded goods, and that tends to raise standards.

People can still exercise collective power through market forces. Shoppers who remember reassurances about "no scientific evi-dence" while BSE was building up, can make their own choices. If a tide of mums take the trouble to go to Iceland, which rejects foods made from GM ingredients, bigger chains will have to follow. Organically grown foods are the fastest-growing sector, even though

price premiums are inflated by much higher mark-ups. Irradiated vegetables have got nowhere because shoppers shunned them.

The key role of governments in markets is to make sure buyers have enough truthful information to make their own choices and not be made fools of. If the previous Government had stopped claiming beef was safe but insisted on proper labelling, even though supermarkets failed to provide it voluntarily, the British beef industry would be a lot better off.

Monsanto resists segregation and labelling, a clear indication that it fears consumer choice. Sadly, the availability of heavy reading on supermarket shelves is not much use if people are unaware of the issues. The much-despised media food scare is as vital a part of this process as the rational debate now appearing on GM foods shows. Without the scare, the issues and evidence do not reach public consciousness. That is a relic of times when we relied on government to keep us safe. It was never sensible: now it is impossible.

* Costs mean patients need to take control of their health



SIR RICHARD SYKES says we need to decide how much we are willing to spend and invest before we debate how we carve up the 'pie'

he threat to the public purse of so-called "lifestyle" medicines such as Viagra has sought the reality of rationing in the health service out into the open. But it has also handed the Government what ought to be heralded as a welcome opportunity to examine the underlying beliefs that British citizens have about the NHS and its funding.

At long last we have the opportunity for open public debate on these issues, oriented around the questions of how much, and for what, society is prepared to pay, and how. But it is important, too, that the direction and focus of the debate are clear and fundamental, and are not driven by specific high-profile and "difficult" cases. Thus, the lasting legacy of

Frank Dobson's interventions.

over Viagra could be the fosterthe funding and prioritisation in healthcare. He has chosen an interesting case. The deci-sion to restrict access to an impotence drug on the NHS to certain categories of sufferers will seem reasonable to some, who may sympathise with the argument for limiting the availability of Viagra for the purpose of "protecting the resources of the NHS to deal with other patients, for example with cancer, heart disease and mental health problems" (NHS

press release, January 21). But setting the hype around Viagra aside, what are the real issues to be examined? The first question to ask is: how much do we want to spend on healthcare in the future in absolute terms and in comparison with other demands on the exchequer? Future demand levels - driven by population

growth, demographic change. fratient expectations and techhological developments — will probably require spending on healthcare to be much higher than it is today. There is nothing to dictate that the latent demaind for healthcare in Britain should be satisfied by the cur-

rent spending allocation of just 7 per cent of GDP. People may have to pay more for their healthcare — but they may

also be willing to do so.
It is a familiar refrain that Britain spends less in this area as a proportion of GDP than the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development average. This is only a satisfactory statistic if you see healthcare merely as an item of consumption, rather than of investment. But healthcare spending not only has popular appeal, it has economic logic as an investment. The economy benefits from such things as reduced time off work for patients and their carers and increased productivity of the labour force as a whole. Very often the use of medicines results in savings elsewhere in the healthcare system; a good example of this is HIV, where fewer hospital beds are needed owing to the bination treatments.

Nor should we overlook the contribution of investment in healthcare towards direct and indirect employment.

There is therefore an important debate to be had about. overall levels of healthcare expenditure in the UK. It is inappropriate to talk about how to divide up the "pie" without first discussing how big it should be. In the NHS there is little connection between how much healthcare individuals receive, and how much they pay for it: young, healthy tax-payers bear much of the cost of healthcare for the sick and, on the whole, the better-off pay for the poor. The big flaws in this socially equitable system are the lack of transparency of the costs involved, and longstanding expectations of a "free" NHS, when it is patently not the case that healthcare particularly innovative

healthcare - comes "for free". A second key issue is the revolution under way in medicine. science and technology, which will transform the face of



The issue of "lifestyle" medicines such as Viagra is only one factor pressurising the system will look like in future, are

the future economic structure ways currently impossible to predict. Many of the opportuniprogress in molecular biology. At the forefront of this is research into genes that is help-ing us to better understand how the body works, what happens when something goes wrong and how medical inter-

vention can be used to restore

health and allevi-So medicines PRESCRIPTIONS ate suffering. are likely to become more accurately target-ed towards specific patient popula-

tions, according to their likely response to a treat-ment. In addition, genetics should ultimately allow doctors to determine which patients are susceptible to asthma and diabetes, for example, and facilitate preventative measures such as lifestyle changes to delay or prevent the onset of disease.

Our improved understanding of human biology at the molecular level may make screening more important, and invasive surgery, intensive-care units and long-term nursing home care less necessary. Questions about what hospitals will be for, and what they

Meanwhile, in the pharma-

being asked now.

FOR THE

ment methods, enabling vast-ly higher numbers of possible medicines to be tested or "screened" in a much shorter time. Miniaturisation and robotic chemistry, allied with biological knowledge, will lead to better medicines and a lower failure

rate in the development process. Late-stage fail-ures in this process are currently one of the main reasons pharmaceutical

All these developments, and others, will, without doubt, change the economics of healthcare. However, because of changing paradigms in medical treatment, it is not necessarily the case that discoveries emerging from this revolution will result automatically in more expensive healthcare, as some would claim. This is not to say that the problem of funding will necessarily go away if we just sit tight — the more healthcare interventions that science brings us, the more will be demanded. Gross expendi-

ture may increase, but unit costs may steady, and returns on expenditure - when viewed ceutical industry, a quiet revo- as investment — would go up. debate about future healthcare expenditure can take place without having to assume costs will inexorably spiral. So we can see that the issue

of so-called "lifestyle" medicines is by no means the only factor pressurising the system much new technology will improve treatments for serious and life-threatening conditions.

Furthermore, the question of what constitutes "lifestyle" is not clear-cut, and raises ethical issues. When does lifestyle become "quality of life"?

Is a hip replacement operation to improve the mobility of an arthritis sufferer a question of lifestyle or quality of life? Sufferers for whom severe obesity or influenza are life-

levels of expenditure has been the rationing of healthcare through waiting lists, "postcode prescribing and other devices.

In place of rationing, it

ment Trust, was explaining to

yesterday's annual meeting

how the trust had outper-

formed the FTSE All-share index when he was interrupted.

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know why a graph in the annu-

al report clearly showed that

the trust's assets per share had

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Stoddart replied that the

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Insecurity?

I CONFESS I have never been too sure what the Securities Institute, the somnolent trade body for the City, is actually for. Now Clive Sinclair-Poulton, a long-time maverick in the Square Mile, seems to share my doubts. He has caused a row by writing to the Financial Times claiming that the one time the institute was called to do anything, it promptly fired the caller.

In the mid-90s Sinclair-Poulton was on the institute's public affairs committee, which asked members what the role



"It's a game of two bids"

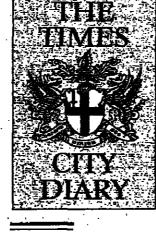
"The majority of people who responded to the survey said, yes, we should be much more pro-active and aggressive in marketing the City," he tells me. "We came up with a business plan. The next thing I knew, the committee was closed down - I was never told why." "I think there's a bit of a per-

ception problem here," the institute replies. Why disband the committee but not tell anyone why? "I don't know. That was badly handled."

SO WHAT was Brian Basham, former PR man to British Airways, doing lunching with Lord King yesterday? I thought relations between him and the airline had been severed after the Virgin "dirty tricks' disaster. "I have lunch with him regularly," says Basham, "I've never, ever fallen out with him. I admire him be-

yond all men - well, almost." Basham insists his quarrel: was with Sir Colin Marshall at BA, after the airline capitulated rather than fight on. "He inserted my name in an

apololgy."



Feathers fly AS CANARY WHARF trun-

dles towards a spring flotation, I hear that a long-awaited legal action may finally reach the courts later this year. The Wharf is being sued for £12 million by Martin Sorrell's WPP, which claims the developer failed to honour a deal to provide space there.

The site in question at Canary Wharf went to the Financial Services Authority instead. The dispute is made even more bitter because Ogilvy & Mather, one of WPP's two main agencies, is a long-time tenant at the Wharf and supported it through the financial collapse

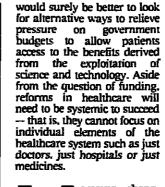
in the early 1990s. "There was never a concluded agreement," insist the Wharf's lawyers.

DOUBLE booking last night for the directors of Leicester City Football Club, because the local council meeting to decide whether the club's new 40,000-seat stadium should go ahead started at 5.30pm. The club's Worthington Cup semi-final against Sunderland kicked off two hours later.

The council meeting is vital; the match is, well, just another match. I suggest that directors should miss just this one. For some reason my informant looks appalled at the idea.

Chart buster MICHAEL STODDART, chairman of Electra Invest-

MARTIN WALLER city.diary@the-times.co.uk



es wili undoubtedly require the patient to become a more active participant in his or her own personal health and undertake lifestyle changes in response to advice from doctors.

general, and medicines in paronly serves to impede sensible the largest number of patients in the new millennium.

☐ TOMORROW: Would you buy shares in the NHS, asks Young?

There is no easy answer, and

none is likely to emerge without questioning traditional methods of funding and delivery. Mr Dobson is to be commended for moving forward the debate over funding by ac-

knowledging that cost - and the sourcing of finance to satisfy demand - are fundamental factors. But we still need to get away from treating the NHS in

This sadly popular pursuit discussion about how healthcare is going to be provided equitably and cost-effectively to

Sir Richard Sykes is chairman of Glaxo Wellcome

David Williams of Ernst &

to the Internet FEW companies integrate their corporate home pages on

Call centres

get hooked up

the internet with their call centre operations. There is a growing belief in the IT world, however, that, by merging the two, companies can communicate much more effectively with their customers. According to a report out this week from Datamonitor, the market research group,

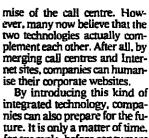
there will be an astonishing 12,600 call centres in Europe by the end of this year, grow ing to 17,900 by 2003. Although only about 3.2 per cent of call centres are likely to be web-enabled" this year, that figure is set to grow to nearly 19 per cent by 2003.

The technology behind webenabled call centres is fairly straightforward. In most cases it means that a consumer can ask a sales representative to call them by clicking an icon on a company's website.

Companies such as Royalblue, which produces the kind of software needed to operate these services, say a surprising number of customers choose to be called. This is because consumers feel more in control if they can browse a website at their leisure, then more. It also saves them from having to wait in a telephone queueing system before a sales nep becomes free.

Customers can also contact call centre staff — to complain about services or inquire about products — simply by emailing them. This works particularly well for complicated inquiries that may take some

time to look into. There was a theory, popular a few years ago, that the Internet would bring about the de-



integrated technology, companies can also prepare for the future. It is only a matter of time. for example, before consumers conduct online video conferences, instead of telephone calls, with sales reps.

☐ NEW subscribers to digital television are not traditional "early adopters" — the advertising term for people who always rush to buy the latest gadgets - but have seen digital as an excuse to finally start paying for sports and chil-

This is the conclusion of a report by CIA MediaLab, the market research group, a week after BSkyB, the satellite broadcaster 40 per cent owned by News International, owner of The Times, reported a strong uptake in digital subscribers. CIA said that many parents

had seen digital as a reason to

give in to "pester power" from

children to sign-up to pay-tele-vision channels.

CHRIS AYRES

Deutsche Bank reports big rise in profits

FROM A CORRESPONDENT

DEUTSCHE BANK, Germany's largest bank, yesterday reported higher than expected profits for 1998 and hinted that it had increased loan loss provisions to snield itself from heightened risk in emerging markets.

The bank said that pretax profits rose to DM7.9 billion (£2.8 billion) from DM2 billion in 1997, boosted by a DM3.2 billion special dividend payment from Daimler-Benz following the automotive group's merger with Chrysler.

Deutsche did not report net income but analysts estimate that based on a 50 per cent tax rate, net profit was DM4 billion, up from DMI1.019 billion. Forecasts ranged from DM3.2 billion to DM3.5 billion. Yesterday's results were preliminary and Deutsche will report detailed 1998 earnings on March 18.

Operating profit was un-changed at DM4.3 billion. scotching analysts fore-casts of a drop after market turmoil hammered third-quarter earnings so severely that it only narrowly avoided a bottomline loss for the period.

It did not say how high its risk provisions were but analysts said the statement indicated that provisions rose steeply in the final quarter after having already increased 40.4 per cent to DML025 billion in the first nine months.

Analysts said the steep rise in pre-tax profit may indicate Deutsche booked extraordinary income from share disposals in the final quarter as part of a plan to shed some of its DM40 billion of investments.

The results followed a higher than expected 47 per cent jump in net profit reported by Commerzbank last week and reinforced the view that German bank earnings recovered in line with financial markets in the final quarter.



مكذا معا الاصل آ

Ups and downs: Tom Mulcahy, chief executive, has seen unusual movements in Allied Irish Bank's share price amid recent merger speculation

Trading in shares of Allied Irish Banks under scrutiny

By Caroline Merrell

THE Stock Exchange is invesrigating volatile trading in shares in Allied Irish Banks, it

emerged yesterday.

The bank said it had been approached by the exchange after unusual movements in its share price after merger speculation. Share dealers were responding to rumours of a El5-a-share bid, with Deutsche Bank and Lloyds TSB tipped as possible bidders. AlB refused to comment on

the bid speculation, while Dec-

lieve that there was an orchestrated campaign at work. The shares fell 574p to

£10.75, compared with a recent high of £12.62. The company. the shares of which are listed in London, Dublin and New York, is capitalised at about Ell billion.

Yesterday AIB became the first Irish company to report annual profits of more than €l billion. Its 1998 pre-tax profits rose 42 per cent to Ir £826 million (£712 million). A final

lan McSweeney, chief finan-cial officer, said he did not be-makes a total of 1r14p a share makes a total of 1r22p, up 25 per cent.

Deposits at the bank grew from IrE31.5 billion to IrE35.3 billion, while loans grew from IrE25.5 billion to IrE27.9 Mr McSweeney said he ex-

pecied to maintain the group's cost/income ratio at 55 per cent. The ratio is in line with a number of other London-listed banks, but considerably higher than Lloyds TSB, which has a ratio of 45 per pent. Tom Mulcahy, chief execu-

tive, said: "Performance in the buoyant economy of the Republic of Ireland generated significant volume growth, with loans higher by 26 per cent and deposits up by 13 per cent. Other businesses to perform particularly well include AIB Finance and Leasing, Treasury and Goodbody stockbrokers."

He said the bank now provided a full range of euro products to customers and was positioned to benefit from the opportunities the euro environment will bring. The bank said that it expected to spend a further IrEl4 million on integrating the euro over the next three years, while the year 2000 project is expected to cost a further Ir£l6 million.

Gary Kennedy, finance di-rector, said the Irish Republic, which contributed Ir£396 million to the 1998 pre-tax profit figure, would continue to drive growth despite forecasts for economic easing. "There are challenges out there. The Irish economy is not growing at the same rate as previous years, even though it is still forecast to grow buoyantly," he said.

RSA launches £290m Australian bid

BY MARIANNE CURPHEY INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

ROYAL & SUNALLIANCE one of the unsuccessful bidders in the auction for Guardian Royal Exchange, the composite insurer — has launched a A\$738 million (£290 million) takeover bid for Tyndall

Australia, a financial services

RSA also announced that it was selling Sun Direct, its German direct underwriting operation, to Neckura Holding, a subsidiary of Nationwide Insurance Group, the US company, for about £7 million. Tyndali's board has recommended that shareholders accept the offer, although some analysts suggested that another bidder might emerge and trigger an auction. Allianz of Germany was named yesterday as a possible rival bidder.

Australia's insurance sector has seen a lot of rationalisation recently with medium-sized

players looking for ways to grow. RSA claimed the takeover would create the fourthlargest player in Australian insurance and financial services, with a 10 per cent market share.

Tyndall deals in life insurance, pensions, fund management and trustee business in Australia and New Zealand.

RSA has offered A\$2.30 a share, which represents a premium of 16 per cent to Tyndall's average share price over the past three months.

After the Australian market

closed Tyndall's board issued a statement recommending the bid "in the absence of a higher offer".

Golden Vale sees **32% rise**

By SAEED SHAH

GOLDEN VALE, the food company based in the Republic of Ireland, announced a 32 per cent rise in pre-tax profit for 1998 and said it was on course for further growth this year.

The company said earnings this year would be bolstered by a full-year contribution from recently acquired Rye Valley Foods and Dairyborn Foods, savings from a rational isation plan, and a solid performance in the existing consumer products businesses.

For the year ended December 31, 1998, pre-tax profit was E27.1 million (£18.7 million), up from €20.5 million in the previous year. Turnover was €736 million (6717 million), before an exceptional restructuring charge of £24.1 million. The company incurred a goodwill amortisation charge of ©500,000 because of a change in accounting standards.

Adjusted earnings per share were 60.1333 (60.1025). The final dividend of 60.251 per share makes a total dividend of 60.353, up 11.4 per cent from last time. Golden Vale announced that it will invest £8 million to expand and modernise its processed cheese facility in Coleraine. Northern Ireland. The investment supported by a £1.6 million grant from the Industrial Development Board for Northern Ireland, will creare 77 jobs over the next five years, to bring the plant's workforce to more than 300.

Confident | Active fund managers too risky, says survey

By GAVIN LUMSDEN

INVESTORS who entrust their money to active fund managers are taking an unnecessary amount of risk and would be better off in tracker funds, a survey has revealed. According to WM Company, the Edinburgh fund per-

formance analyst, few actively run unit trusts consistently outperform the stock market. In any five-year period investors in an active UK income and growth unit trust had only a one-in-four chance of beating the returns of the FTSE All-share index. Active funds that hit the top quartile were unlikely to stay there for long WM found indeed once fund managers costs and charges are stripped out, only one of the 46 unit trusts in the survey had managed to beat the stock market index clearly

in the past 20 years. But, in trying to beat the in-dex, active fund managers took more risk and produced a more volatile performance as a result. This did not produce better returns, leaving WM to conclude that investors were not being properly rewarded for

the risk they were taking. Virgin Direct, which commissioned the study, said the findings were the final nail in the coffin for many active fund managers. However, critics of trackers believe that as more money goes into passive funds more room will be left for good active managers to add value.

Shorewood leaves Field to Chesapeake

SHOREWOOD PACKAGING has conceded defeat in its attempt to take over Field Group, the UK designer and manufac-turer of packages and labels for the drinks, tobacco and confectionery sectors. This leaves the way open for a £218 million bid by Chesapeake, a rival US packaging company. The offer, of 360p a share, was announced late on Friday. It is 10p higher than Shorewood's bid and is recommended by the board. Marc Shore, chairman and chief executive of Shorewood, said yesterday that to continue to pursue Field "would require a purchase price which would be dilutive to our earnings and

a purchase price which would be dilutive to our earnings and not in the best interests of our shareholders". He said Shorenot in the best interests of our snateriolders. The said short-wood would continue to pursue acquisition opportunities in the UK and continental Europe. Chesapeake's latest all-cash offer values Field at almost 60 per cent more than its market value before any takeover talks were announced. It employs 2,500 people at factories in Nottingham, Bradford, Portsmouth, East Kilbride, Newcastle and Thatcham in Berkshire.

Sidlaw receives offer

SHARES of Sidlaw Group rose 23th to 137p after the flexible packaging company said that it had received a takeover approach. The suitor's identity was not disclosed. Sidlaw, based in Edinburgh, lists Mars, Cadbury, KP and PepsiCo among its clients. At yesterday's closing price it is worth about £95 million. Its shares have risen steadily since December when they touch ed a low of 644p. Sidlaw was hit by losses in oil services in the mid-1990s but has since sold the division. In the year to September pre-tax profits were £7 million on sales of £154.5 million.

Thistle chairman quits

THISTLE HOTELS is to seek an external non-executive chairman after the resignation yesterday of Rodney Price, who steered the group through its 1996 flotation. The departure of Mr Price and Paul Collins, who has stepped down as a non-executive director, had been expected after their recent resignation from the board of Thistle's biggest shareholder. Brierley Investments. Brierley has nominated Rupert Morley and Tan Sri Quek Leng Chan to replace them on the Thistle board. Andrew Bould, chief operating officer, has been promoted to the board.

Reflec rescue placing

REFLEC, the speciality chemical company, revealed plans for a rescue share issue yesterday saying that if shareholders did not back the proposal it would have no alternative other than to file for receivership. The company said it was seeking to raise £2.54 million after expenses from a placing of 264 million shares at 1p. In the interim it is drawing down a previously agreed £300,000 loan from International Pipeline Consultancy as bridging finance. After the announcement of the plac-ing, which is not underwritten, Reflec's shares fell lp to 2p.

AB Airlines dips

SHARES in AB Airlines, the independent carrier, dived yesterday after it said that it has been forced to pull routes on which it operates because of the cut-throat competition within the industry. The company is discontinuing flights to Berlin from Gatwick and terminating its join venture with Aer Lingus, which flies to Shannon in Ireland, blaming the "number of airlines which continue to offer heavily discounted fares in an attempt to gain market share". The shares fell 12p yesterday to close at 35p.

Salvesen warning

CHRISTIAN SALVESEN, the logistics group, delivered a its financial year next month, saying that profits are likely to come in 10 per cent lower after problems on a new contract with J Sainsbury. Salvesen had set up a chilled food operation at a Sainsbury's site but failed to predict the volumes going through the facility. The company said that costs covering extra staff and vehicles would lead to a £3 million charge. Analysts expect Salvesen full-year profits to come in at £32 million.

US home starts leap

CONSTRUCTION starts of new homes in America soared in January to their highest level in more than a decade, the Commerce Department said yesterday. Total starts jumped 3.8 per cent in January to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1.804 million, following an upwardly revised 5.1 per cent rise to 1.738 million in December, January's building rate was the highest since 1.833 million recorded in December of 1986. The rush of January housing starts was concentrated in apartments, where starts shot ahead 13.9 per cent to 410,000.

Railtrack bond issue

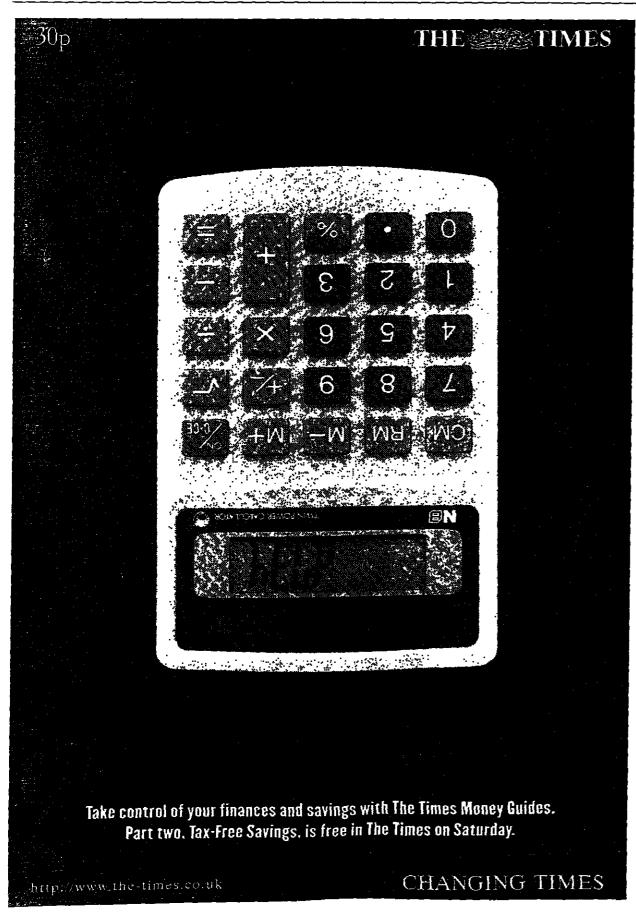
RAILTRACK GROUP, the railway infrastructure company, is issuing £400 million of exchangeable bonds maturing in 2009 in the international capital markets. The bonds will be underwritten by a syndicate led by Warburg Dillon Read. The underwriters initially expected to raise £350 million but increased the issue to meet demand. The proceeds of the issue will be used by Railtrack to continue its capital expenditure programme. The bonds will be exchangeable for Railtrack ordinary shares. The shares fell 77p to £14.59 yesterday.

Freeport advances

FREEPORT LEISURE, the owner and operator of factory outlet retail villages, lifted pre-tax profits to £3.03 million from £1.41 million in the half year to December 26. Earnings rose to 6.16p a share from 4.61p. The company does not pay an interim dividend. The company's new outlet shopping mall at Take, near Stoke-on-Trent, opens next month, while retail villages at Castleford and Braintree are due to open in late 1999. Sean Collidge, chief executive, said the current development programme was running to budget.

Growth at Dobbies

DOBBIES GARDEN CENTRES lifted pre-tax profits to £1.4 million from £1.01 million in the year to October 31. Earnings were 18.27p per share, up from 17.22p. A final dividend of 3.35p a share makes a total of 5p. up 11 per cent. Sales were 31 per cent higher at £11.1 million, despite adverse weather conditions in the spring and summer. Shares of Dobbies, which trade on the AIM, rose 5p to 265p yesterday.



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Ritual is taxing our patience US starts back-to-basics

Douglas Fairbairn has a question for modern-day Chancellors:

is your Budget really necessary?

udgets are supposedly great parliamentary occasions. And everyone involved does their best to make them so. The Chancellor of the Exchequer has himself photographed with wife, dog or jobseeker, according to personal preference.

Television and radio stations clear their schedules, and greet the news that booze and fags have gone up with such surprise that you might think that it had never happened before. Trees die by the millions as the information is released, regurgitated and

commented on. Is this really worth all the effort? Have Budgets — as events, as legislative hooks and as a way of economic life — outlived their usefulness?

We have Budgets because we subscribe to a series of polite fictions, some of them older than others, and all of them equally useless. The oldest of these fictions is the idea that taxes are annual, and that the Government should be made to justify each year its case for removing the taxpayer's money. This notion is nice — romantic, even — but it

The client they

couldn't avoid

FURTHER ironies have

emerged in the great humili-

ation of the old firm of Coop-

ers & Lybrand over its feeble

well's empire.

efforts to audit Robert Max-

Once upon a time, the firm

of Deloitte was approached

by Maxwell and asked whether it would like to be-

come the auditor of his

many businesses. Tactfully,

Then, of course, in a very

complicated three way merg-er, the firm merged with

what was then Coopers &

Lybrand and is now the odd-

but firmly, it declined.

is rubbish. Taxes are not going to go away. I believe that the annual round of Budget and Finance Bill, mixed up as it is with the presentation of party policy, is actually damaging the quality of tax legislation.

It is certainly doing nothing for the quality of parliamentary accountability, either. Anyone who has read recent Finance Bill debates will know that genuine investigation of technical measures is a rarity. And as for MPs defying the whip . . .

Another longstanding assumption is that Budgets are when you find out what is going to happen to tax and spending. Well, this may have been the case in the past, but the surprise element of this event_is_diminishing_every year. The Pre-Budget Report is a much more thorough affair than the old Autumn Statements ever were, and the present Government has fixed its public spending commitments for three years, anyway. It has also undertaken not to change the headline rates of either income tax or corporation tax for the rest of this Parliament. What is there left

waterhouseCoopers.

1990

key to this is that all these

blameless Deloitte partners

joined up with Coopers in

Maxwell went overboard

a year later. It is not obvious at present whether the old

Desoitte hands still within

the firm are liable for shock-

ingly poor work on a client that they personally would

not have touched with a

bargepole. All this may ex-

plain the tight-lipped nature

of Peter Hazell, who, as man-

aging partner of the merged

firm, was wheeled out to



Douglas Fairbairn is worried about the quality of tax law

for a politician to talk about? This brings me to the final Budget myth. This is the one that says that the Budget is about the economy. It is not. The Government does not run the economy. The economy is "run" by a combination of

one of the old Deloitte part-

NO WONDER Scotland is

in such belligerent mood

over devolving itself from the dastardly English.

Take the plight of David

Spence, this year's president

of the Scots ICA and who is

given, on the right occasion,

to wearing kilt and full kit.

His wife, justly proud of his

role, presented him with a

new skean-dhu for his year

This, for readers living in

Blade runner

AND OTHER BUSINESS

ners.

of office.

financial institutions, global companies, investor sentiment and sheer chance. The Chancellor has power only at the microeconomic margins. So, should we abandon the yearly Budget, the archaic

supposition that what the

small knife and is an essen-

Heading up to Edinburgh

in order to fulfil one of his

many engagements, Spence was stopped at airport sec-

urity. The X-ray showed — did it not — a knife in his lug-

gage. A knife is an offensive

weapon. Security officials

concluded that Spence was

about to hijack the plane and

demand safe passage to

Spence protested that the

worst that he was going to

do with the knife was stuff it

down his sock at a dinner in

somewhere like Uist.

tial part of the kit.

Chancellor says maners, and modernise the event? I think that we should at least recognise reality. We have an extremely complex tax system that is policed on the basis of occasional amateur oversight. Technical changes of great sophistication are shochorned into a procedure designed to test the supposition that Mr. Pitt needs another sixpence to fight Boney.

Je should decouple the vast majority of Y tax measures and have a senarate technical procedure. Since the Government is, rightly, committed to open consultation, such a procedure could allow MPs to call witnesses and to take representations over a much longer period. resulting in - I would hope - better legislation.

Would this not be much less fun? Perhaps. However, even with a technical Tax Changes Bill, we could still have a yearly statement dealing with those essentially political tax changes to income tax rates. I doubt that any Chancellor

would willingly give up his day in the spodight, even if he has got nothing much to say.

The author is national head of tax with Ernst & Young

☐ The Budget is on Tuesday.

sisted. The knife had to travel in the hold. And on arrival up north, they revealed that they had lost it.

Britannia's rules AMERICANS are always under attack for being a rule-based business community. But they reacted with amazement at the mass of rules and regulations unveiled this week to allow UK partnerships to become limited liability partnerships. Americans achieved the right to similar status several years ago. "All we had to do was change our letterheads," said one baffled New York partner.

ROBERT BRUCE

attack on lax reporting

THERE has been a tendency in this country for people to sort out poor corporate governance by looking inwards. Internal auditors are asked to take on more. There is much talk of risk management. Even directors have sometimes been asked whether they should not put their names to a statement saying how effective internal controls are.

This focus is useful. But it has tended to move the spotlight away from the external auditors, which is not necessarily a very good thing. Audit firms have, coincidentally no doubt, used this period of relative ease to change the nature of an external audit on to a more theoretical basis that searches for weaknesses in risk management, for exam-

pie, rather than doing the old-fashioned detailed work that used to cost them so much in time and staff.

But the pendulum may be swinging back. Certainly the latest regulatory efforts in the US suggest so. Regulators in America are angry. They see external auditors as having allowed all sorts of poor accounting and lax corporate reporting to burgeon. They argue that the firms have moved too far from the basics of external auditing. The firms, when they have a moment spare from selling all manner of extraordinarily sophisticaled extra services to clients. argue that this is not so.

This does not sit well with the idea that America has the most stringent financial reporting rules and regime in the world.

Stung by such slurs on the nation's reputation, Arthur Levitt. chairman of the allpowerful Securities and Exchange Commis-sion, set up what they call a "blue ribbon" panel last October to report on how the audit committee process could be strengthened.

Audit committees were once seen as relatively comfortable places. But it is now obvious, particularly since the panel has now reported its findings, that they are going to adapt to become the front line in not just seeing that directors of companies and their external auditors behave properly but in being seen to be putting their reputation on the line in doing so. It is a far cry from the amiable Hampel Committee approach to corporate governance over here, which hardly amounted to more than a quick tidy up with a feather duster. And we know what the Hampel response, and the average UK company's response to the US proposals would be. It would be hands thrown up in the air and an argument that business was yet both on the committee.

again to be ensnared by red tape and rules that would derail efforts at wealth creation.

But, if anything, the US approach would help. It is founded on people stating what should happen and then reporting back on whether it did happen. For example, it suggests that the audit committee of each listed company should adopt a formal written charter, to be approved by the full board of directors, setting out responsibilities, structure and process. Each year it would have to be reviewed on a formal basis and, more important, a statement would have to go to the annual shareholders' meeting as a narrative describing what the audit committee had been doing. At a stroke, it makes an audit commit-

tee formally accountable. The report also deals with the central issue of auditor independence. Its proposals would give the audit comminee a clearly defined role for evaluating whether an auditor is truly independent. This would involve, among other things. a formal statement from the auditors explaining all relationships between the auditor and the company. and the audit committee would be "responsible for actively engaging in a dialogue with the auditor" over any relationships that it felt might impinge on

ROBERT independence. It is also suggested that a formal discussion be published "about the quality, not just the acceptability" of the company's financial reporting and insists that

> to encourage open, frank discussion". In a week in which the Accounting Standards Board has moved to clamp down on company directors' fanciful statements on property revaluation, this sort of approach is

this requirement should be written in a way

Finally, the American report suggests something that the UK Stock Exchange has repeatedly shied away from. It suggests that the external auditor carry out a review of each quarter's financial reporting.

This measure would create a greater continuity in the external auditor's work. All this would force external auditors back into a position at the heart of responsibility for the quality and the reliability of financial reporting

And if UK companies complain that such measures are too onerous, they should take it up with the global chiefs of Ernst & Young and PricewaterhouseCoopers. They were





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Celebrated in print, on film and even in song.

highways are part of America's culture. Last year we acquired one of the biggest

SuperHighways in the USA.

We now own and operate one of the

vorld's premier internet networks with the

ability to offer our customers not just the latest in communications, but the future of

communications.

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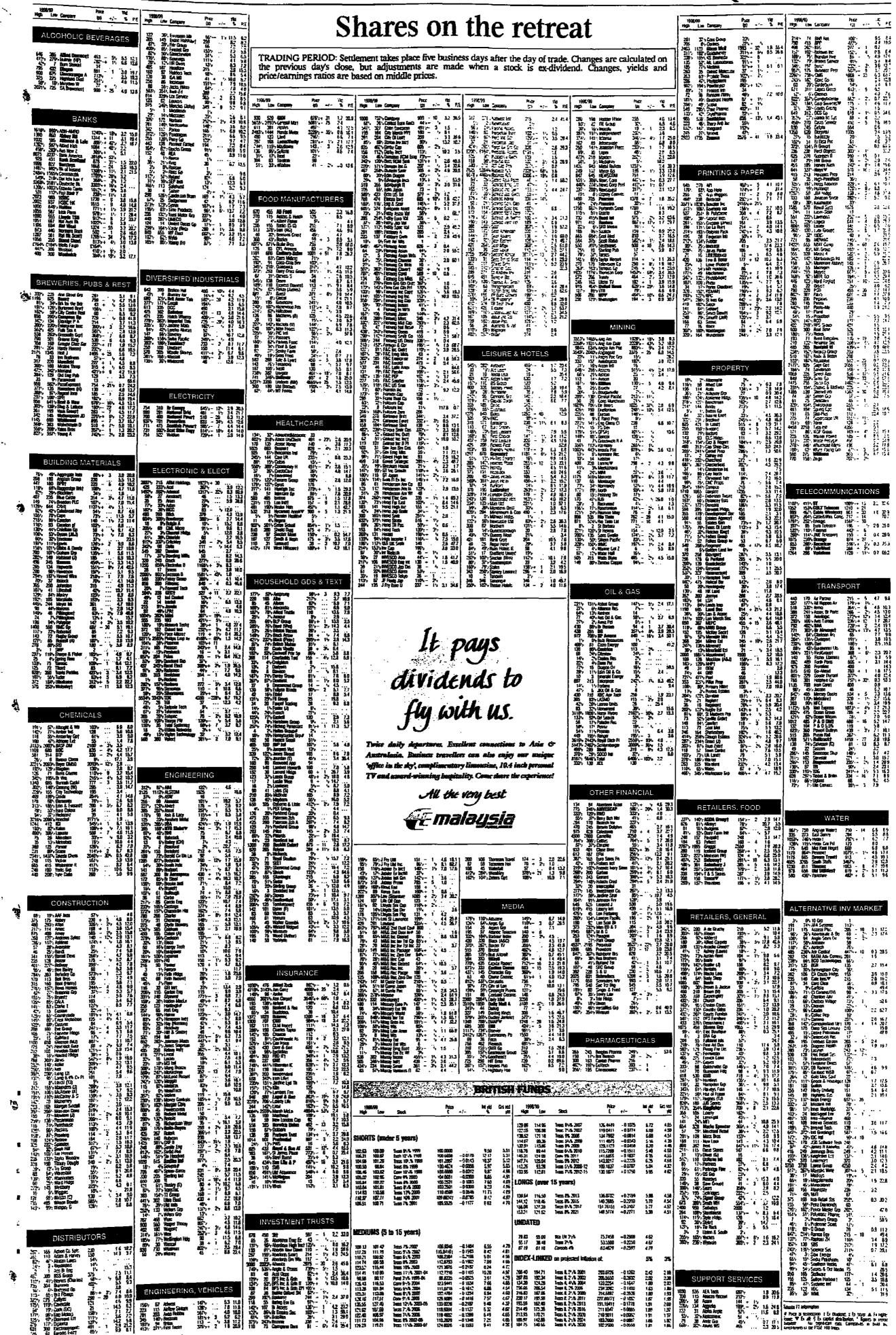
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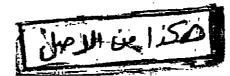
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THE TIMES





The Troubles with our Julie

orty years ago, as a lit-tle girl at prep school in Birmingham, Julie Walters received a terrible thrashing designed to break her spirit. A vicious teacher literally tried to beat the Irish pride out of her with a wooden ruler. Her crime? The eight-year-old refused to pronounce Bath in the English way with a long A — as in Arthur.

"I never told my mother, who was from Ireland, as this was a blow against her and I was making a stand to protect her," Waiters recalls.

It is the same courage and defiance that she has brought to her latest film. Titanic Town, which opens later this month, in which she stars as Bernie McPhelimy, a character based on Tess Costello, the housewife who launched the Women For Peace movement in Belfast in 1972.

Despite threats to her life, bricks through her window and a hatchet attack on her son, Bernie refuses to be intimidated. Instead she gets 25,000 signatures for a peace petition, arguably setting in motion the popular groundswell which culminated last year in the Good Friday agreement

Ironically, Bernie is ostracised by her neighbours on her own housing estate in Andersonstown, where the IRA and the Army fight running battles, endangering the lives of the local children. The only person to support her says: 'Sure I'li sign, dear, so long as I remain anonymous."

Yet Walters quashes all suggestion of heroism when talking about Bernie, the most unlikely queen of peace, popping Valium, sporting curlers and muffing her public pronouncements. Standing on the steps of Stormont next to the Secre-

Julie Walters has made one of the most important films of her career. just as she is losing interest in the profession. Paul Nathanson met her

to me

it was 5

to the world's media as "the paramilitary Secretary of "It's not about heroes and heroines." Walters says in her Brummie accent

Bernie's flawed and driven by her vanity, and she also feels awfully guilty for bring-ing such trouble on the family. That's why the film's so ⁶ Acting is unusual — it's not partisan: it's a domuch less mestic view of the

Troubles being fought out in your important back garden. " Bernie's a pawn used by the British and the IRA. She's innocent now than abroad, as concerned about her.

marigolds as the po-

situation. And that's a relief as I was worried about being grilled about any political reasons for playing the part."

Another aspect of the part which attracted Walters was the echo of her own mother a driven woman from the Republic who, like Bernie, was strong, sad and frustrated. She wanted to prove to her father that she was as good as her brothers, who were sent off to be professionals away from the farm, which she had

to run. Walters sees herself as similarly driven in an attempt to please her mother, who had wanted her to be a teacher or a nurse. "The part allowed me to

tary of State, she refers to him be my mother, but I only realised it when I saw the film and

> that old bat on the screen?" -and it was my mother." Titanic Town has also joited Walters in her attitude to the Troubles. Before, she was blasé when incidents ap-

saw the same tiredness and

frustration. I thought, 'Who is

peared on the news. Now, after playing in scenes where tanks roar over front gardens and people shoot each other by your front gate, she is shaken by the terror. "It's terrifying. Filming in Belfast, I was working with actors who were there as teenagers in 1972 and it was a

education.

Tess Costello still

has nightmares from her own experience nearly 30 years ago. And her voice still shakes when she recalls her own kind turning on her. "I just hope that the peace agreement will work out. It's

real

the best chance they've ever had and people do want it. Ex-tremists trighten me. The best way is balance and harmony." Titanic Town has already won critical acclaim in Ameri-

ca, where Variety, the showbiz bible, praised Walters's "corker of a performance" and "the skill of this touching drama". Walters describes the film as one of the most important in her career. Yet it is clear

that her appetite for acting is

sion of Oliver Twist, to be shot in Prague in the spring. But if it means being away too much from Maisie, her ten-year-old daughter, she will not go. Instead she will stay at

tress in Alan Bleasdale's ver-

home in Sussex indulging a new-found passion: writing. Walters is penning her first novel, but is having to battle against her chronic indiscipline and a talent for missing

The project is already 18 months late, but her publisher, Little Brown, is showing superhuman patience. Perhaps it has an inkling of its author's working methods, which involve stopping her car in country lanes to make notes on the back of an envelope only to find she has posted the letter when she returns to her lap-

"I had written a book about pregnancy years ago and Little Brown asked me to write a novel, saying it only needed five characters," she explains, "They liked my idea, so I thought, That's a cinch', but I get writer's block and can't see my way through a chapter."

It is not a comic novel but tells the story of two English actresses in New York. One, in the throes of a breakdown, is picked up by a man and taken back to his apartment. One moment he seems to her to be the Angel Gabriel and the next Godzilla.

"Writing's a wonderful di-version from work," she says. "and acting is much less important to me now than it was. În future I'll do as little as I can get away with."

Who knows? Comedy's loss might just be literature's gain. Titanic Town opens on Feb 26.



New chapter: Julie Walters wants to swap acting for novel-writing but it is harder going than she had thought

Oscar books a ticket to Rio

ome the Academy Awards ceremony on March 21, the spotlight will focus as usual on the main categories - Best Film, Actor, Actress, Director and so on, In most years the competition for Best Foreign Language Film tends to be a poor relation in the glamorous Oscar family but this year not one but two of the movies nominated in this category are also in line for

higher profile awards. In with the best chance numerically is Roberto Benigni's controversial Italian Holocaust comedy Life Is Beautiful with its seven nominations, including Best Film. But another Best Foreign Film contender worthy of mainstream attention is Central Station from Brazil. Its star, Fernanda Montenegro, who won the Silver

"MAGNIFICENT"

Bear at the Berlin Film Festival. is also up for Best Actress. while the film itself, which opens here on March 12, has so far won a clutch of trophies. including Best Film at Berlin, and most recently a Golden

success. Prizes apart, what makes Central Station a remarkable achievement is that it is the creative and commercial peak in the renaissance of a film indus-

"WONDERFUL"

"A REMARKABLE FILM. IT'S BRAVE, IMAGINATIVE AND ALMOST

UNBEARABLY MOVING."

"BENIGNI IS BRILLIANT, THE FILM

IS FANTASTIC.

nomic and social problems. The film has been sold all over the world and in its own country has broken box-office records, pushing Titanic into second place and Godzilla into third. "Which all goes to show," says its director, Wal-ter Salles, "that size doesn't matter after all." Globe, often regarded as a crystal ball foretelling Oscar

Central Station is a road movie about Dora, a middleaged woman, who scrapes a living as a letter writer for illiterate passers-by in Rio de Jatry which literally disap-peared in the early 1990s un-der the weight of Brazil's econeiro's bustling Central Station, until circumstances force her to accompany an or-phaned nine-year-old boy across the country to the remote North East of Brazil in

> ing and suspicious woman and the tough and determined child is refreshingly unsentimental and unpre-dictable, but although the film can be enjoyed purely as an engaging story, the two main characters are also metaphors for Brazil itself in the past 20 years. Dora represents the culture indifference,

search of his lost father. The re-

lationship between the grasp-

which was created by the drive for industrialisation regardless of human cost, while the boy's search for his father, explains Salles, is a symbol for the dual search for both past and future which is at the root of Brazil's culture. "Countries that have been

colonised are countries where the quest for the father is still very present. There never was father, a sense of identity and roots in the past. It's the missing link. "Conversely, for genera-

tions Brazilians have been told they were going to live in the country of the future, a future which never came. That created a paradox — nostalgia for the future as opposed to nostalgia for the past. So in 1992. when things were collapsing, the students took to the streets and President Collor was impeached due to popular pressure, we started to realise that we had to take the future in our own hands. This is what Josué represents in the film." Josue, the boy, played by nine-year-old Vinicius de Oliveira, also represents the poor of Brazil in a very real sense. Salles found him at the airport, where he worked as a shoeshine boy, having left school a year and a half earlier

to help to support his mother and his three brothers. "It was raining so nobody wanted a shoeshine," Salles remembers. "He asked if I could lend him some money so he could get something to eat. We were looking for a boy who knew what the battle for survival in the streets of Rio

meant but who had not lost his

innocence in the process. I was really struck by the the density of his eyes and, driven by The film intuition, I asked him to do a film was made test. After a few seconds thought, he said he couldn't do to depict a that because he'd never been to the specifically movies. But I persuaded him, he did Brazilian the test and that

In the early 1990s, when the Brazilian feature situation ⁹ film industry had virtually ground to a halt, Salles, who is now 42, was making documentaries for television. The script for Central Station won a major award from the Sundance Film Festival worth \$310,000, an important contribution towards the film's initial budget. But de-spite its careful scripting and rehearsals, once filming started. Salles's documentary-mak-ing instincts kept him respon-

sive to the world around him. "The texture of the film was constantly changed by the con-ract with reality. 300,000 peo-ple walk through Central Sta-tion every single day. A Holly-wood crew would try to control those people. Coming from a documentary background, we tried to mingle with them. The first day of the shoot, as we were installing Dora's little table in the station, real people came to Fern-

than the ones we had written anda Montenegro and asked whether they could dictate letin the screenplay." ters. We filmed those letters and found that they had a

Salles has made one other feature film, Foreign Lands, which deals with the mass emi-

gration from the country in the early 1990s as a result of Collor's disastrous attempt at economic restructuring. It was made in 1995, one of the first



products of the newly reborn

film industry.
"We're now making perhaps 40 films a year coming from zero," says Salles. "It's a very interesting time because there's a lot of unity. The old masters such as Carlos Diegues, Nelson Pereira dos Santos, one of the leading lights of the Cinema Novo in the 1960s and 1970s, and Hector Babenco are very close to the younger generation of film-makers. We all tend to make films that have the same desire to explain, to be a reflection of our

7 hat would an Oscar mean for the Brazilian film renaissance? "It would certainly mean that our industry is mature and competitive but I personally feel that our main goal is to maintain a very close relationship with our own audi-

country."

This film wasn't made to win prizes. It was made to depict a situation that was specifically, intrinsically Brazilian and the rest is really a conse-quence of that. If it helps Brazilian cinema, then that would be good, but whatever the outcome, I will continue to make the films I believe in."





Have pity for the iceman cometh

uring Paul Schrad-er's Affliction, Nick Nolte's Wade shambles around the snowbound town of Lawford, New Hampshire, hand on jaw, nursing a blinding toothache. Even when he wrenches out the offending molar with a pair of pliers, Wade still aches. He aches because he's a small cop in a small town. He aches because his wife left him for a rich man. He aches because his young daughter, Jill, can't stand be ing with him. But most of all he aches because he's Wade: an over-the-hill alcoholic with enough chips on his shoulder to open a casino. That's a lot of affliction for a traffic cop who has never been at the right end

THURSDAY ILENIARY

of a raw deal. But this is not the affliction which Schrader's film disin-ters from Russell Banks's novel of the same name. Despite being a genial irrelevance around town, Wade is terrifying. Not because he unwitting ly frightens his daughter, nor because he hates being in the pocket of the local moneybags. But because someone in the past has messed with Wade's marbles, and he wears that grudge like armour.

When a rich tourist dies in a mysterious hunting accident, Wade brings the full weight of his prejudices to bear. Being a nominal cop. he succeeds only in getting up the nose of his boss. Being Wade, he fumes about conspiracy theories down the phone to his success ful younger brother, Rolle (Willem Dafoe). Rolfe sensibly spends most of the film living lsewhere. What little he has to say about Wade is revealed in short bursts of gloomy voiceover: "Wade lived on the edge. of his emotions. He had no perspective to retreat to." We hardly need these motorway signs to know the film is plodding towards the heart of some Ameri-

t is left to James Cobtim, as Wade's irascible fa-- an arthritic sack of alcohol and spite -- to expose Wade's grudge in grainy flashbacks to Wade's childhood there are grim clues to a cycle of domestic vioence. In their scenery-smashshare the same flushes of aning, the same blinkered under-

standing of women. Coburn and Nolte are fabulously paired, like bare-fisted boxers carved from the same thankless slab. Behind them is a history of male violence. In front of them is the bleak knowledge that they are going nowhere. With his granite face, suspicious squint, bear-like stoop and pitbull drawl. Wade is not pleasant viewing. But Noite's magnificent performance is worth every mo-

Affliction ABC Shaftesbury Ave 15, 108 mins Lumpy, bruising portrait Nick Nolte and James Coburn

This Year's Love Odeon Marble Arch · 18. 108 mins Camden Town misfits make love among the

junk stalls Holy Man Warner Village West End PG, 114 mins Eddie Murphy sells his soul on a shopping

channel.

Foreign Land ICA, 100 mins Strangely gripping underclass thriller set in Brazil and Lisbon News From the Good Lord

ICA, 110 mins

Weird French comedy in which disgruntled characters look for God ment of its Oscar nomination. Sissy Spacek's soft-hearted

waitress mops Nolte's craggy brow and gets either a notional squeeze or an angry earful. Coburn flashes cynical smiles of recognition. It is a wonderfully understated turn by Spacek in a relentless, slowburning, but compelling meditation on male hurt. David Kane's debut feature, This Year's Love, is remarks

ble if only for the fact that he has managed to employ what looks like half the leading lights of the London Pringe over the past decade. Poking around the stalls and junk shops of Camden Town, his buzzy, soapy comedy charts the tangled mess six twentysomethings make of their love lives over a three-year period. The tone is set by Douglas Herishall's Glaswegian tattoo artist, who coolly marches into his wedding reception in a tartan suit, flings the cake against the wall, and storms off to Heathrow with the honsymoon tickets to Jamaica. It constructions, over the Pages out his filted bride, Cath-th of Wade's mother, they came McCormack, has been steeping with his best man. At

"A relentless, slow-burning, but compelling meditation on male hurt": Nick Nolte and James Coburn in a scene from Paul Schrader's Affliction

Heathrow, Henshall chats up Kathy Burke's airport cleaner and they promptly decamp back to Camden, where Mc-Cormack is already making a move on another Glaswegian Dougray Scott's grungy, free-spirited (for which read

awful and broke) painter. Meanwhile, in a nearby cyber café, Scott's Liverpudlian ffatmate, Ian Hart, a Julian Lennon lookalike and comic book nerd, bumps înto Jermiier Ehle's New Age single mother, sporting a blonde Ras-tafarian wig. Ehle, a trustfund rebel on the dole, and irritatingly PC, breaks the weedy Hart into the joys of sex like a driving instructor: "Wrong. .Wrong. Dominate me to do then? squeaks Hart

from behind his round specs. And so it goes on. Over the next three years they drift in and out of each other's orbits, fall into each other's beds, and fall out almost as soon as they get started.

Kane's plot is as hopelessly improbable as the rose-tinted view of Camden's boutiques. Elvis pubs and bohemian squats. But there's a nice, raw discrepancy between what makes the characters tick, and what makes their love-lives tick. Burke's self-deprecating cleaner and pub-band singer can't understand why any of the blokes should fall for a fat bird with "Celtic Forever" tattooed on her burn.

- Scott's hilarious artist, a rougher, grizzled version of Ewan McGregor, can't seem mitment. And those unlucky enough to scratch Hart's desperately needy Liverpudlian discover a socio-sexual psycho-

Kane's film aspires to that haphazard sense of lives being thrown together to see if they will stick. There are some cracking mismatches and eyecatching performances. But

LINKS '

the way Kane studiously indulges the daisy chain of characters - setting up dates, allotting them the same film time, and then picking up the grubby pieces — is worryingly mechanical and not a little predictable . . . particularly by the third or fourth partner.

Still, his movie is a model of probity compared with Stephen Herek's Holy Man. If you harbour the delusion that Eddie Murphy is God's gift to film, then this is for you. Wandering down a Miami highway kissing patches of grass, Murphy's cheery itinerant Guru is nearly run over by Jeff Goldblum's jaded television executive. Goldblum has enough problems with the plummeting ratings on his crappy shopping channel to warrant a mir-

Preston's busty marketing whiz is the romantic packaging. Even impulse buyers might balk at the prospect. In stark contrast, Walter Salles's wintry, 1995 black and white feature, Foreign Land, is a miracle of content over budget. Here the fortunes of a student in São Paulo (Fernan-

between Murphy's big, smi-ley, super-naive G, and Gold-

blum's cynical sleazeball is

flogged as mercilessly and im-

aginatively as detergent. Kelly

do Pinto) and a struggling Brazilian waitress in Lisbon (Fernanda Torres), become inextricably tied when Pinto bungles a mission to deliver a dodgy nuitcase to a criminal contact in Lisbon. Forced on the run with Torres, the fearful Pinto discovers that his new home land is just as uncertain and dangerous as the turmoil he left behind. The real surprise is how the film moves with unexpected definess from gritty. bare-wall realism, to a hair raising thriller complete with diamonds, identity and a fledgeling romance at stake. It bodes well for Salles's lates film, the Oscar-nominated Central Station (see interview on facing page).

nother ICA offering Didier Le Pecheur's 1996 debut feature. News From the Good Lord, starts with quirky, comic promise. A subversive writer, wrestling with questions of existence, kills himself by accelerating into a brick wall. His fervent admirers suddenly doubt whether they are real or merely characters in one of his novels. They want to thrash out their lousy plot lines with God. Led by Maria de Medeiros and Christian Charmetant, the moticy Pirandellian crew discover that the Author is a disillusioned old hack with writer's block whose latest book has been mucked up by their insist-

acle. When Murphy wanders

on to one of Goldblum's live

sets and starts spouting homi-

lies about the mess people's

spiritual lives must be in to

want to buy this junk, the prod-

ucts bizarrely start flying off the shelves. Guru hits the shop-

ping G-spot, becomes a nation-

al phenomenon, and religion

and consumerism are brought

Greed is the target here.

That and America's propensi-

ty to buy chainsaws, doormats

and toe rings from an honest-

looking preacher with a hald

head and natty facial furni-

ture. Herek's satire is watcha-

ble chiefly for its tacky gags

about the sad business of sell-

ing. But it is patently not what

Herek himself is interested in

selling. The ghastly double-act

into glorious harmony.

ence on meeting him. Pecheur assembles all the ingredients for a first-class spoof on solipsism, then promptly blows it by inviting us to empathise with his characters who. despite the flattering camera angles, sharp hairdos and faked charisma, spend far too much time being tediously dislikeable in a stolen taxi cab. Most of us have to pay fares for that sort of indulgence.

NEW VIDEO RELEASES

THE CHALLENGE

Carlton, PG, 1938 "CLIMBING, climbling, always climbing," says Luis Trenker's turinting mother. But what is a born mountaineer to do? The Matterhorn looms before him, and an English rival (played by Robert Douglas) is gung-ho for its conquest. The cast's accents are all over the place in this British account of Edward Whym-per's victory over the Matterhorn in 1865, but there is no doubting the authenticity of the Alpine scenes, superbly shot, or the moments of high drama. A fascinating film.

DEEP RISING Entertainment, 15, 1998 SEA bandits board the world's most opulent cruise ship, only to find that monsters have sucked the blood from passengers, crew, a jewel thief in a slinky dress (Famke Janssen) and anyone else on board. Glopmeister Rob Bottin supplies modestly effective special effects, but an underpowered cast, topped by Treat Wilfiams, and routine direction stifle most of the pleasures of Bmovie hokum. Available to rent.

DR DOLITTLE Fox Pathe, PG, 1998

ONCE the subject of a famously unsuccessful musical, Hugh Lofting's stories are turned into a crass vehicle for Eddie Murphy as a San Francisco doctor who rediscovers his hu-manity when he runs over a dog. The dog talks back, and soon all the city's sick animals come to him for aid. Sounds like a charming fantasy? Think again. To avoid appearing sentimental, the film-makers have loaded the script with ruderies, limiting the movie's appeal to youngsters just getting the hang of talking dirty.
Available to rent or buy.

HIGH AND LOW

Connoisseur, 12, 1963 KUROSAWA'S extraordinary epic thriller is based on a novel by hard-boiled crime writer Ed McBain, though the film's atmosphere could not be more Japanese. The first half unfolds in a villa high above sweltering Yokohama, where the kidnapping of an industrialist's son goes awry. The second takes us down to the city. bustling and sleazy, where the kidnapper is trailed. Kuro-sawa gives the visual contrasts a moral dimension, and keeps us riveted for more than two hours. With Toshiro Mifune and Tatsuya Nakadai.

KISSED

Tartan, 18, 1966 AND now for something completely different: the Canadian tale of a necrophiliac girl who makes gentle love to the bestlooking corpses at the local funeral pariour. This could have been wearisome and kinky. but director Lynne Stopkewic plays it cool and poetic, haring us by degrees into the heroine's strange world, helped by a seductive performance from Molly Parker. No morality is invoked; instead, we are left to make our own judgments and to ponder on the attraction of extremes and the lengths people go to pursue their desires.

GEOFF BROWN

LITTLE VOICE. OUR SHOUT.



Get a free cinema ticket*, to see all the latest releases at BCI cinemas nationwide. See next Monday's Times for details. Popcorn not included.

CHANGING TIMES



LISTINGS

Tosca at the Albert Hall

ARTS

INTERVIEW

Sir Claus in giving mood

RECOMMENDED TODAY

Guide to arts and entertainment complied by Marit Hargie

LONDON

RICAN IMPORTS, A short season of American works starts with a double bit: Splach Halch On The E Going Down, Kis Continon's play centred around a pregnancy in Hartem, and Katherine Burger's Morphic Resonance, a spiky look at the pairs of love. Dommar Warehouse (0171-369 1732), (§) Opens lonight, 6.30pm.

1732). By Lips in many girl setrical the NUALAS: Insh all-girl setrical two brends harmony, hilanty singing the brings harmony, hilanty and a sharp look at humanity. Drill Hall (0171-637 8270). Previews lonight, 7.30pm. Opens tomorrow 7.30pm.

TOSCA: The creative team behind last year's acclaimed Madam Sutterly returns with a new, in-the-round production of Puccini's passion-tilled drama. Susan Bullock and John Uhlenhopp head the opening night cast. David Freeman cinects.

Albert Hall (0171-589 6212). Opens tonight, 7:30pm.

SHERYL CROW: The successful, rocker, recently normaled for so Grammy Awards, plays a gig here with support by the former Aziec Camera member, Roddy Frame. Wembley Arena (0181-902 0902). Tonight, 7,30pm. (5)

ELSEWHERE

CHELTENHAM: The City of Birming-ham Sympitomy Orchestra under Nicholas McGegan performs Mozari's Don Govann overtue, Salien's Con-certo for Flute and Oboe and Town Hall (01242 227979) Tonight,

Marin Alsop conducts a premiere in Glasgow

oi Proveits. Also on the programme are Copland and Bartók. With soloists Karina Geuvin and Christopher Maltman. Marin Alsop conducts. Matman Mann Alsop conducts.
Royal Concert Half (0141-287 5511).
Tonight, 7:30pm. (3)
MANCHESTER. Violin virtuoeo Christean Tectalif joins the Halfe Orchestra under Kent Nagano in Alban Berg's moving Violin Concerto prefaced by Mahler's serane Ninth Symphony.
Bridgewister Half (0161-807 9000).
Torschol. 7:30pm. (3)

Bridgemeter Hall (0161-807 9000). Tonight. 7:30pm. (b) SALISBURY. Timothy West and Prunella Scales play merecing visitor and cosy landlady in The Birthday Party. Piter's first play Tour follows. Playhouse (01722 320333). Opens

NEW WEST END SHOWS

remy Kingston's choice of theatre showing in Londo ■ House full, returns only 🖸 Some seats available 🗆 Seats at all prices

☐ BAREFACED CHIC Fascepoing Arda play here for a month before setting off on their latest national four. This time Clarke Peters directs. Theathe Royal Haymarket (0171-930 9800) (2)

☐ AND THE BROTHER TOO Earnor Morressey returns to the numitable comic writings of Flann ○ British, revealing more about "Yer Man" and his currous view of the would Tricycle (0171-328 1000)

☐ DEFENDING THE CAVEMAN Mark Little makes his West End acting debut in Rob Becker's new comedy. tracing the origins of the man/woman difference back to the caves Apollo (0171-494 5070)

☐ LIPS TOGETHER, TEETH APART Featurn of Terrence Michally's attractive play where two heteroseword couples find themselves creekframy the Fourth of July in a gay reson.

Orange Tree (0181-940 3633)

©

☐ HOWARD CRABTREE'S WHEN PIGS FLY Off-Broadway hit comedy

about putting on a musical (evue emphasis on lavish costumes and difficult performers Arta Theatre (0171-836 3334) ☐ HOWIE THE ROOKIE Mark

O'Rowe's ingitimare account of Dublin's vicous underworld fouds Mike Brigdwell directs Audin Kelly and hart Sheets Bush (0181-743 3368)

☐ LE CID Airer len years Dectan Donnellan directs Comeille's 1637 classe again tims lime performed in French with English surfates) Received an ovation at the Avignon Facture! Pestival
Riverside Studios (0181-237 | 1111).

THE RAPE OF LUCRECE Thinking stagung of Shakespeare's poem by Theresa Shiban's Angelus Aris A company of seven plus sensationally exolic music Union Theatre (0171-261 9876) ☐ TOAST Debut play by Richard Sean, set in a Hull bakery disturbed by a new arrival Richard Wisson directs Ambassadors (0171-565-5000)

FILMS ON GENERAL RELEASE

James Christopher's choice of the latest movies

NEW RELEASES

LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL (PG) Roberto Benigni's romantic Second World War-lable strickes a disturbing corredy into the Hotocausi Supremet, wall acted

YOUR FRIENDS & NEIGHBORS (18) Neil LaBute's sex-obsessed comedy of marriers tracks the area

SWITCHBLADE SISTERS (18) Cheesy re-release of Jack Hill's cult film about veenage delinquents. A gaing police and God-learing owners of greasy burger joints the joy of Hill's film is never knowing how lar he has his longue in his cheek

DON'T GO BREAKING MY HEART (PG) Jenny Seagrove and Anthon Edwards star in a quirky Valentine cornedy where they outwit the dastardly dontist. Charles Dance JACK FROST (PG) Michael Keaton

grant and whice him off to star in bad

comes back to ble as a snowman to spend quality time with his son. The healwave doesn't come quick enough. MY GIANT (PG) Sleazy film agent Billy Crystal discovers a Romanian

movies in Hollywood. Big ego inp for Crystal, bad move for everyone else Michael Lehmann directs. HOTEL DU NORD (PG) Marcel Came's bitter-sweet 1938 classic about

two sets of Pansan lovers Fabulous performances from Louis Jouvet and Artety scoure its place as an CURRENT HIDEOUS KINKY (15) Kale Winsle

plays a naive young mother who takes her two young daughters on the hippie trail to Morocco in the early 1970s Beautifully shot by Gilbes Mackinnon LIVING OUT LOUD (15) Firful romano: with Holy Hunter and Damry David as an odd couple who meet in the elevator Loretiness brings them together, lanta-ses keep them apart Cacking perfor-mances fail to unlock the statemate.

A BUGS LIFE (U) A colony of cute. hard-working ants are terrorised by a delinquent gang of grasshoppers. A cornic least for lods

PECKER (15) John Waters's frothy nausous bits at world lacks his usual nausous bits but there are enough lumy bad-tasts moments to keep the humour buboling. With Edward Furion, and Christina Ricci.

There is a Santa Claus

Sir Claus Moser, lifelong champion of the arts, is

playing Mozart for charity. Joanna Pitman reports

ir Claus Moser is 76 and growing ever more youthful in his old age. When I meet him in the office of the British Museum Development Trust. of which he is chairman, he is juggling roles as usual, dashing from one public duty to another like a Chinaman spin-

ning plates. The Brinsh Museum occupies part of his morning, then there is his bombshell of a report on literacy and numeracy, which must be biked to the Education Secretary by noon. Thoughts must be summoned on the Oxford Playhouse lot-tery bid (he is the chairman) and on the London Symphony Orchestra (he is on the advisory council). Then there is the small matter of the Mozari Piano Concerto No 23 which he is rehearsing daily for a public performance on February 23.

For 25 years he has watched arts organisations struggling to survive (he was chairman of the Royal Opera House from 1974 to 1987 and has been involved with, among others, the South Bank, the LPO. Glyndebourne. BBC Music, Royai Academy of Music and the Royal Shakespeare Theatre). But he has recently begun to identify small buds of optimism for their future.

"I will go on fighting for more funds for the arts as long as I live, but I'm suddenly feeling rather optimistic. There are lots of little signs of hope and I'm beginning to feel young again," he says. So young, in fact, that he has agreed to perform the Mozart at St John's, Smith Square, in aid of the Hurtwood Adventure Playground Association, a charity which sets up special playgrounds for disabled chil-

Only seven months ago this workaholic had a quadruple heart bypass and was confined to bed for three months. The enforced rest gave him a rare opportunity to stop and think and it brought about his recent conversion to optimism about the arts in Britain. "The climate has changed. I've thought about this a lot - I was feeling terribly gloomy about it all, but as long as there is evidence of enough efforts around the country of ministers and others doing something constructive, then I'll never again say that this is a philistine country.

oser has a histo-

ry of stirring up

complacent min-

, isters, and the arts have been a regular target. "When I was chairman of Covent Garden, 1 remember ministers saying, 'Oh, we're used to Claus's annual whinge'. Well, I've stopped whingeing in general but I still intend to whinge in specific areas. I think this helps in a small way, partly because Chris Smith is passionate about the arts in specific areas, such as his determination to stop charging at museums and his musical instrument fund set up since schools moved music out of the core curriculum. Of course, it's still depressing that it's questioned whether arts should figure in the curriculum."

Huge swaths of the arts world are still gasping for

help, and a reorganisation of the distribution of National Lottery funds is one area where Moser wants a change. "The distributing bodies ought to be prepared to help more with running costs, and in reducing the requirement for matching funds in needy cases. There is also a damaging perception among some chari-table foundations that there is so much money sloshing around from the lottery that their contributions are not needed, even for projects that they favour. This is a critical misunderstanding which must be corrected." He is also concerned about the Arts Council, in danger of emasculation and possible abolition as a result of an increasingly interfering

"In the past, the Arts Council was a genuine buffer between Government and the arts. I feel that has gone. I think it's become closer to Government and it may be that the reason is the size of the sums of money involved. I would hate to see it go but I think detailed involvement in the dayto-day running of organisations should be avoided." The apparent turnaround of

Covent Garden's fortunes has cheered Moser no end, and his current, most time-consuming baby, the British Museum Development, is on target to open in November 2000. "After three and a half years, we've raised £95 million of our £100 million costs. It's going to be a wonderful scheme, attracting new younger audiences without going back on our tradition of scholarship. Running costs are the other demand: we



Great and good: Sir Claus Moser — "I'll never again say that this is a philistine country"

have just got money for new boilers and drains and we're approaching companies for ames attached? Named posts boilers and drains and we're approaching companies for named posts. We already have five - for example, a TSBsponsored post in education for disabled visitors. I have no problem with that. If people

will become more common." With his fingers in so many pies. Moser has trouble apportioning his superlatives. Covent Garden is going to be "the

best opera house in the world"; the British Museum is going to be "one of the great buildings in London": "Oxford Playhouse is going to be marvellous ..." The heavy load of ing Moser going strong

NEW CLASSICAL CDS: A pair of young opera stars; a Dukas celebration; and Murray Perahia sublime in Bach

OPERA

■ CECILIA & BRYN

Santa Cecilia Orch/Chung. Decca 458 928-2 ★ ★ E13.99

THIS is a bit of a ragbag of a record, but one which the Italian mezzo Cecilia Bartoli and the Welsh baritone Bryn Terfel clearly had fun making. Bartoli gets a chance to show off her dazzling coloratura, and Terfel delights in displaying verbal virtuosity in characters ranging from a macho Don Giovanni to dodgy old codgers like Dulcamara in Donizetti's Elisir.

The opening scene from Le nozze di Figaro is an obvious way to kick off, a reminder of the role that first brought Terfel to fame. But then Bartoli follows with Un mote di gioia,

which Mozart wrote for Susanunless Bartoli is there to sing na in the Vienna Figaro and is now scarcely heard. It should be, especially when sung like this, with Bartoli summarising in three minutes all Susanna's sparkiness. Hardly duet, though, for Figaro is nowhere in sight.

The pair also perform roles they would never play in the theatre. Terfel could well be a Papageno, but what house could afford Bartoli as Papagena? They combine in the Pa-Pa-Pa-Pa-Pa-Papagena recognition scene with irresistible brio. Nor is Terfel likely to accept the part of the hangdog Taddeo in Rossini's L'Italiana

CDs reviewed in The Times can be ordered from the Times Music Shop on 0345 023498

with him. Only the final duet from Elisir is poorly chosen. Myung-Whun Chung is the considerate conductor.

JOHN HIGGINS

ORCHESTRAL

■ DUKAS Symphony, La Peri, Sorcerer's Apprentice Orchestre National de France/ Slatkin RCA 09026 68802 2 * * *

E10.49 THE ubiquity of Dukas's Sor-

cerer's Apprentice has tended to eclipse the rest of his output, even though the surviving orchestral works of this most fastidious of composers can almost be contained on a single CD. It is good to have the C Major Symphony and the ballet La Péri on this new disc. devoted to Dukas, from the Orchestre National de France under Leonard Slatkin.

In the Symphony one is made conscious both of the skill and invention of the 30-year-old composer in reworking a classic form, and also of the exuberance that courses through the outer movements, with their leaping rhythms and open-throated horns. The Andante, looking forward to the masterly opera Ariane et Barbe-bleue. exploits atmospheric orchestral colouring and adds a tragic di-

mension. La Péri, with its virtuoso scoring and superb craftsmanship, is even more magical. Slatkin and his forces are especially enthralling in the dance of the beautiful sleeping fairy.

BARRY MILLINGTON

INSTRUMENTAL

■ BACH English Suites Nos 2, 4, 5 Murray Perahia

£15.99 WHEN the planist Murray Perahia's first volume of English Suites appeared, it went straight to the top of my potential records of the year pile. And his completion of Bach's six follows not far behind: after some Handel, Scarlatti and Schumann last year, Perahia has now returned to Bach for the Suites Nos 2, 4 and 5.

Once again Perahia hears the articulation of the harpsichord (for which these pieces were written) over his shoulder, while fearlessly exploiting the breadth of the modern Steinway's potential to delineate and dramatise. The two

slow-shifting key changes through repeated rhythmic sequences, where the balance of resonance and clarity is most beautifully poised.

perceptions fuse in passages of

weight and measure, too, in the slow Sarabande movements, with their meditative ornaments. Both Perahia and his recording engineer capture excitingly every nuance of the inner voices of the Prelude of the Fourth Suite, while the stark contrapuntal architecture of the same movement in the Fifth is revealed with a new bright light in Perahia's playing.

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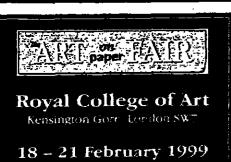
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INTERVIEW

Relic brought to life

et me speedily dispose of one aspect of Declan Donnellan's lucid revival of Corneille's Le Cid that surprised and, judging by the reviews I've read, delighted the French when it was staged in Avignon last year. By casting one fine black actor as the title-character and another as the King of Spain, the British director broke a de facto colour bar that, for reasons of tradition. prejudice, or lack of trust in its audience's imaginations, appears still to be pretty ada-mantly maintained at the Française and

France's other culture palaces. Moreover, he did so with Neo-Classicism's first masterpiece, a play before which it is mandatory to genutlect, as if it was a holy relic and not a living drama. But as we here know from his work for Cheek by Jowl, Donnellan doesn't see playhouses as reliquaries. If he has a style, it consists of spare staging, narrative clarity, incisive acting: in short, a igorous avoidance of unnecesasary rhetoric or distracting theatricality.

That is what he has brought the French and, with key lines transposed into surtitles, what he is offering Londoners for the next ten days. It could, I suppose, be argued that anyone who scraped the accumulated goo off Corneille's tragi-comedy would simply expose dead bones. Today conflicts between honour and passion, duty and love, barely exist. They certainly do not create the heat they do inside Rodrigue, later the Moor-conquer-



ing Cid, who feels obliged to challenge and kill the putative father-in-law who has slapped his own father's face. It is easier to imagine a modern counterpart of his Chimène, who seeks the execution of a man

them by parents: people must still cope with totems and taboos; superegos war with ids and (a special emphasis here) our male and female sides are often at odds. Certainly William Nadylam's sensitive, reflective Cid and Sarah Karbas nikoff's artless, sensuous

Corneille's rhyming alexandrines, according to La.

Monde, followed "au pied de la lettre", come across quietly



she admits to adoring, explaining "to be worthy of you I must have you killed"; but not a lot. Yet children are still seeking to unravel the moral knots left

Chimene are far more than 17th-century nobs in a period fix. It is not merely that they and the rest of Patrick Rameau's court wear modernish army uniforms and smart, unfussy dresses. It is that they make you feel the characters' youth and confusion - and a vulnerability signalled both by the odd giveaway sob and by the occasional glimpse of naked skin beneath the linen.

rather than noisily, yet have intensity and power. There are many superb moments: a



Cold comfort: Michel Baumann, a chauvinist father, is impervious to pleas for solace from his sensitive son Cid (William Nadylam) in Declan Donnellan's fine staging of Corneille

opposite sides of a big empty stage as the bespectacled king and the anguished princess at the centre continue to cope with war and amour, whoops of bellicosity and macho giee as the Spanish soldiery en-guls a Cid whose mind is clearly on subtler matters. Yet I think I shall most recall

by big, bullet-headed Michel Baumann, might well be Kaiser Bill in Belgium-bashing mood — and getting nothing but accusations of efferninacy in return. Is that Corneille? This production made me be-

> BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

what between curtain up and

curtain down. Having Frith Banbury as its director means there are also shifts in the light that filters through the strangely milky-white windows and flashes of lightning from an out-of-town of hand. The storm is part of the script, which won a Pulitzer Prize for the author in 1977 - what can the competition have been? The author was D. L. Coburn, but wheth-

er he was a man or she was a

his is a mild play, a gen-

tle play, a play of moods that shift some-

The Gin Game Richmond

So just what is the deal here?

wins. He never wins. Some-

how this is presented by the au-

thor as expressive of their trou-

bled relationships with life.

spouses, children, friends,

business and ultimately their

relationship with one another.

thinks he is and loses his tem-

per when shown this; she is

sharper-witted, or has better

Should she have contrived to

lose a few games in the very

different battles with her hus-

band and her non-visiting

son? We learn so little about

her — though it is more than

we learn about Weller - that

the characters exist merely as

coat-hangers for two experi-

enced actors to hang their

If this is what you relish,

then you may take pleasure in

what Tutin, Ackland, Banbury

and Coburn provide: unspo-

skills upon.

ck or, er. I don't know what it's meant to mean for her.

He is not as clever as he

woman the programme gives no clue. We are offered half a page and a photo of both understudies, and why not, but something about the scribe would also have been an idea.

On the unused sun porch of an old people's home, Joss Ackland's Weller is playing solitaire until Dorothy Tutin's Fonsia enters and is persuaded to join him in games of gin rummy. She wins. She always



Aces high: Dorothy Tutin and Joss Ackland demonstrate the old-fashioned theatrical virtues in *The Gin Game*

Grasping the elusive

bsen's hero can slip like an eel through the fingers of a production team. Jeremy Kingston writes. The truism that Peer himself is eellike, evading capture throughout his life, only makes more daunting the task facing a director and his leading actor.
If radio drama had existed

in 1867 this is the form Ibsen would surely have used to tell of Peer's rock-climbing feats, fights, and encounters with dark forces that set him off on the wrong paths through life and reappear at its close. In this Royal Exchange production Braham Murray's direction and David Threlfall's performance do not win all the battles. A few are defeats, but only a few. Mostly the themes of this

epic emerge clearly on the seven-sided open stage where a ladder, a noose, the bridge of Peer's ship, descend from David Threlfall as Ibsen's above. So do three maidens.



gest Peer's fleeting awareness of various sorts of loss.

Michael Meyer's admirable translation is gingered up with some recent colloquialisms. The setting is modern with the trolls wearing evening dress. In his wastrel youth Threlfall's Peer is bald as a skinhead, which never looks quite right, and particularly odd when the Mountain King calls on him to remove his Christian clothes and become as pagan as the trolls - the contrast between the two natures has become blurred.

And yet the bald image arches over the play. On his travels Peer's hair has become thick but when home at last he is again skin-headed but this time with age. Hunched in a ground-length overcoat, peel-

ing the onion of his life and haunted by his unachieved potentials, Threifall speaks with a gaunt voice, the aural equivalent of this grim vision.

This is a production that helpfully emphasises Peer's dangerous reliance upon himself alone. He is ready to leave Solveig, ready to leave anyone and anything, to his now and future loss. Josette Bushell-Mingo plays all the women he could have remained with, her performances ranging from patience to lust.

The diction of the distinguished Norwegian actor Espen Skjønberg is not easy to make out until his last appearance as the Button Moulder. There is excellent speaking by Julian Littman as the clovenfooted Priest, who is also Hitler in the Madhouse scene. Though is it amusing to see Goering and Freud also here, the would-be Tony Blair with the mummy of Thatcher on his back doesn't work at all.

A vet in stately practice

BLUES John Hammond Jazz Café, NW1

sion: the blues have survived all these hardships. The cappuccino machine at the Jazz Café is another matter. Its oc-

casional death-rattle blasts. not to mention the clatter of empty glasses against the stainless-steel bar, provided ample competition to John Hammond's show. Hammond's single-minded

performance, however, made it all bearable. Having begun his career in the coffee houses of Greenwich Village more than 30 years ago, the American guitarist takes such discomforts in his stride. An untir-

200-plus-shows-a-year man, he takes out his steel-bodied guitar and gets on with revisiting old 12-bar favourites and salvaging obscure collector's pieces. Had he turned up with Little Charlie and the Nightcats, the feisty backing band on his new album, Long As I Have You, he would have

had even less trouble making himself heard. But his true forte lies in the one-on-one inti-

Robert Johnson's classic Come On In My Kitchen rarely sounds as haunting and seductive as it does in his hands. With the rise of younger blues revivalists. Hammond is beginning to settle into the role of elder statesman. And in spite of the electric

ambience of the new disc, he remains uncompromisingly faithful to Afro-American tradition, happier to interpret Blind Boy Fuller's Untrue Blues and other songs from the past rather then add a pop gloss or venture down the singer-songwriter path. It invariably makes for a stark, occasionally faltering presentation. Switching between his steel

and acoustic instruments, Hammond keeps the conversation to a minimum, one song following another with barely a pause. There is something almost eerie about his performances: this craggy, self-effacing New Yorker producing the visceral grunts and despairing falsetto cries of another generation, another world. If the visual effect remains slightly incongruous, Hammond's multilayered guitar playing grows more hypnotic by the year, bent notes splintering away

from each spartan phrase. The spell lingered to the very end, culminating in a taut encore of Johnson's Kindhearted Woman Blues.

CLIVE DAVIS

ken but implicit comments on loneliness (how to avoid it) and friendship (how it should be nourished). But too little happens. If each character comes to represent what the other abhors in the opposite sex. I want more than wispy hints of that abhorrence. Tremors of past grief, rage and hitter burt flutter across n's cheeks harden her

stare, thicken her voice, agitate Ackland's hands, his whole manner. These are neat, unselfish performances, in a production that applies admirable old-fashioned virtues and this is not intended as a put-down. The actors face us when it would be good to see their faces, and when they turn away we can clearly hear their voices. Only the play they are in seems indefinite, frail as a house of cards.

JEREMY KINGSTON

POLLY PRITCHETT

PREVIEWS FROM 24 FEB, OPENS 3 MAR

JOHN GILL

TERRY KING

0171 494 5040



Leaping out of the pod



IT WAS a testament to Black Eyed Peas' grassroots appeal that the Shepherd's Bush Empire was not far from full on Monday night. The LA-based hip hop trio, winding up a European tour, had no new material to promote and are still af-

ter a debut British hit. Moreover, it had not been long since the hand last played in London, although favourable reports of those shows doubtless boosted the turnout. Backed by four musicians, a

DJ and female vocalist Kim Hill, Black Eyed Peas bounded on stage Beastie Boys-style. Apparently immune to tour fatigue, the trio spent the next 90 minutes not only jumping around, but incessantly encouraging the audience to follow suit. Most did, at least until the first of two startling displays of acrobatics. Wisely, before the backflips began, frontman Will Adams removed the metal bucket he had been

wearing on his head. His plastic cape came off too, although fellow rappers Apl. De. Ap. and Taboo kept on their bulky jackets and hats.

From the same school of friendly, freestyle rap that in the past produced the likes of Arrested Development and the Jungle Brothers, Black Eyed Peas make the sort of softcore hip hop that tends to fare better in Britain than in America. Funky, blunted beats and blatant pop samples (bits of the Bee Gees, Blondie and the Meters all featured) backed jazzy, soulful songs about self-respect and integrity. If the result recalled early 1990s hip hop acts such as De La Soul and A Tribe Called Quest, the band's integral use of live instruments brought the sound back up to date and in line with the likes of the Roots and the Fugees.

Released last year. Black Eyed Peas' excellent debut alburn, Behind The Front, has so far spawned just one single, the infectious Joints & Jams. The crowd, however, sang along to almost every song. Most would also have noticed numerous lyrical steals from artists such as Faith Evans. the Fugees and Jurassic 5. Presumably, the idea was to draw the audience further into the action. The ruse, however, proved pointless. Black Eyed Peas had the Empire in the paim of their hand all evening. Barely anyone budged until

LISA VERRICO

the house lights went up.

macy of his acoustic recitals. MARQUEZ "CHANDLER
ROBIN MCATTRIA" DIANE O KELLY
BILLY CATTER PROBERT PATTERSON BILLY CARREST PAITLES DANIEL HART SIMON COLEMAN DANIEL HART WILLIAM KEY OSCAR PEARCE MILO TWOMEY PETER BAYLISS JOHN CROWLEY DESIGNED BY
JEREMY HERBERT COSTUMES BESIGNED BY LIGHTING DESIGNED BY LAURA HOPKINS RICK FISHER SOUND DESIGN BY
JOHN OWENS & FERGUS O'HARE for Auta FIGHTS ARRANGED BY QUEEN'S THEATRE

BOOKS

The morality of shuffling off the mortal coil

ackling one of the great taboos, Georges Minois has written a major, moving but in the end maddening book. The distinguished French historian, here translated by Lydia G. Cochrane, admits that there is much to his story that will always be a mystery. Because the deed was so often hushed up, we have virtually no way of gauging what suicide rates were in the past or how they varied. Before suicide notes became common in the 18th century, what precisely those who cut their throats or gulped down poison were thinking is equally lost.

What can be known, however, are public attitudes; and these amount to a classic case of "two cultures" and the "dou-ble standard". "Common suicide" -- ordinary people kill-ing themselves out of unbearable pain, poverty or oppression - always drew official wrath. For all its cult of noble suicide, exemplified by Brutus and Cato, Antony and Cleopatra, the Classical world outlawed self-murder by slaves and foot-solidiers. In the age of Hamlet, peasants who did themselves in would then have their corpses tried, tortured and ritually executed; in England they would be buried at the crossroads with a stake through their hearts (to stop their troubled ghost from wan-dering); and their possessions would be forfeit.

For its part the State looked on the suicide as it would a soldier who had deserted his post it was an affront to authority. And suicide was not just a crime, it was a sin. for the Church deemed such Judases rebels against God, and probably possessed by the Devil.
As always, however, it was

one law for the rich and another for the poor. If common suicides were victimised, the elite were treated leniently. Stoicism had rationalised suicide An important book on the history of suicide in the West is finally

maddening, says Roy Porter



HISTORY OF SUICIDE

Voluntary Death in

Western Culture

By Georges Minois

Johns Hopkins, £30

ISBN 0 8018 5919 0

began to romanticise suicide:

while the teenaged Chatterton

launched the cult of the

doomed writer. Not least, the

celebrity suicide made his ap-

pearance. As Minois remarks,

despite the massive presence

of self-slaughter on the Renais-

DON'T RELY

ON EVERYONE

ELSE TO DO IT

Children need more books

SEE THE BACK PAGE OF SECTION ONE FOR TODAY'S TOKEN

as the act of a noble soul; the chansons de geste celebrated the altruistic suicide - warriors sacrificing themselves to save a comrade or dying for love: and codes of honour and patriotism vindicated the aristocrat who fell on his sword: better death than disgrace. It was even possible for theologians to be soft on self-destruction. Had not Christ laid down His life for mankind?

Thus the status of suicide was always open to question. What Minois astutely shows is how the balance tipped in the Age of Reason. Pity replaced persecution, and the suicide won public sympathy. Partly so as to protect the victim's family from official might and greed the fiction emerged that suicides were out of their minds and not responsible for their deed. Philosophers like Hume and Voltaire trashed the old religious prohibitions: Goethe and the other writers

FREE BOOKS FOR SCHOOLS CAMPAIGN

actually topped themselves. By contrast, in the 18th century droves of English aristocrats blew out their brains (often some 21 politicians killed themselves, pre-eminently Clive of India and Lord Castlereagh.

Our islands became the suicide capital of the world, inviting the diagnosis of the "English malady". But what England was suffering from was a modern press, maximising ex-posure of such tragedies and thus creating copycats.

sance stage — 52 in Shake-speare alone — practically no

illustrious people at that time

o what happened next? How was suicide seen once it had ceased to be the supreme revolt against the Almighty? This is where Minois' book is so frustrating, because it peters out just at this point. Whereas the title leads the unsuspecting reader to think that the story comes up to the present, the truth is that the last two centuries are covered in under 30 pages.

The great debaters of suicide - Camus, Sartre and the other Existentialists: the notable casualties (Primo Levi, Sylvia Plath); decriminalisation and other public changes: new trends, including mass cult suicides; and modern approaches to understanding the phenomenon (Durkheim and beyond)

- all are passed over in silence or get just a fleeting mention. This is odd, for it has only been since Nietzsche's "God is dead" that suicide has become problematic. Self-destruction always had a meaning — the fist shaken at Heaven, defiance of the State. But in a godless, pointless world, how could shuffling off this mortal coil have any meaning?

Even so, this book, lucidly translated, makes compulsive reading. But keep your pistols

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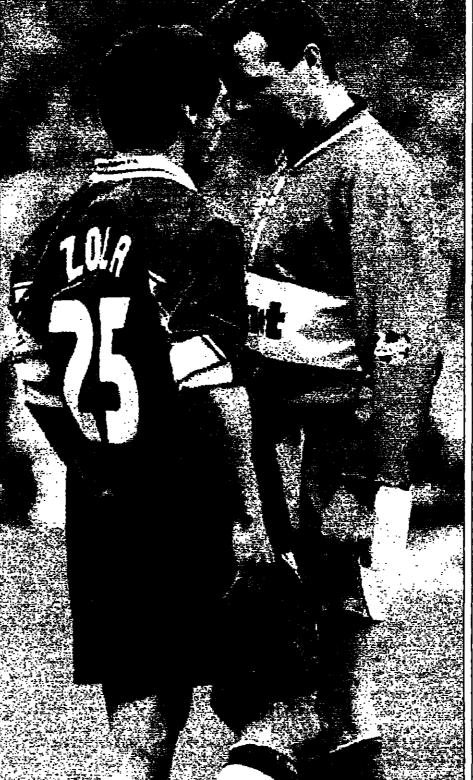
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Gianfranco Zola and Paul Gascoigne discuss the finer points of the English game

Sorry, my son, memories aren't made of this

an Glanville began work on a new book: British Soccer and the Foreign Challenge. Its theme was the decline of the British game in the face of strengthening competition from European and South American football.

At that time Glanville was certainly a prophet without honour in his own land. This was, remember, 18 months before the Hungarians took us apart at Wembley, and 45 years before Glanville's beloved Arsenal became, under Arsene Wenger, the North London regiment of the Foreign Legion. In 1952, indeed, Glenn Hoddle was just finishing off his previous life.

Even as a very young reporter Glanville could see that there was more to the game than was dreamt of by Walter Winterbottom. So to broaden his own horizons he quickly established a parallel career in Italy, writing for the Corriere dello Sport, as well as for Sport Express, Sport and Pastime, and many other now forgotten journals, before finding a home at The Sunday Times. Ever since, his commentary on British football has been informed by a deep knowledge of the Italian game.

His wake-up calls to the English football establishment DAVIES

FOOTBALL MEMORIES By Brian Glanville Virgin, £16.99 ISBN 1852277939



have rung out loud and clear for five decades. To judge by last week's game against France, he has been wasting his time, though Glanville may have gained some satisfaction from the sight of Arsenal's French forward line demolishing Arsenal's English defence.

But Glanville's life has not been exclusively devoted to a campaign against the flat back four. He has given the term "cultured midfielder" a new and deeper meaning. His first novel, The Reluctant Dictator, was published, remarkably, when he was only 19. An-

n, was a success in transla tion in Germany. He wrote TV sketches for That was the week that was his short stories have been widely acclaimed, and in 1981 John Gielgud performed in a Glanville radio play.

But here he puts his cultural

aspirations aside and comes back to football, in a curiously unformed way. Football Memories is, frankly, a mess: poorly written, badly edited, episodic to the point of incomprehensibility. This is football writing in danger of disappearing up its own tunnel. The World Cup recollections revolve largely around park games between the British and Italian press. We learn more than anyone could wish to know about Glanville's own team, the Chelsea Casuals, and considerably less than we might have hoped about those who "run" our national game. The publisher's description, "a compelling commentary on the changing face of sport", is as accurate as a Virgin train timetable.

This is sad. There is no one better placed than Glanville to write such a commentary. His perspective is broad; his understanding of the politics and the play is second to none. He ought to get on and do it. Football Memories could then be quickly and quietly forgotten.

Boys' own story

By Stephen E. Ambress Simon & Schuster, £20 ISBN 0 684 85628 X

IN A WEEK when the British are said by Germany to be culturally fixated on the Second World War, there is a voracious national appetite fcs; books about that conflict. This one, subtitled Eisenhower and His Boys: The Men of World War II, deserves better than it will get here: the British tend to be grudging towards Ameri-can Gls. This masterful compendium of first-hand G1 experiences in the European thea-tres of war, culled from Am-brose's distinguished work as a military historian, is both stirring in its narrative and touching in its humanity.

Hail, She-ra

ON THE TRAIL OF THE WOMEN WARRIORS By Lyn Webster Wilde Constable, 18.99 ISBN 0 09 478080 3

CRUDE caricatures of women warriors such as Xena, Red Sonja or Lara Croft are less and more than the image of the Amazon in myth and reality. Wilde has identified the essence of the Amazons as shakti, "the female partner of a god and the power that she embodies." Their memory as "the losers of history is traced through the centuries in a book that is better and more independent-minded than most of the works of academic ideologues that the book cheerfully skirts in favour of the author's

Bit of Berlin

interpretation of her research.

THE ROOTS OF ROMANTICISM By Isalah Berlin Chatto & Windus, £20 ISBN 0 701 16868 4

PHILOSOPHY is a dangerous thing: revolutions erupt, 4. engorged with blood, like a pox on the body politic, but the infection lies deep and subtle in the roots of the pustule. Isai-ah Berlin's 1965 Mellon Lectures ranged widely across the turbulent writings and activities of the Romantics, mostly French and German: Romanticism was not an English taste. Now edited by Henry Hardy and published more or less as spoken, with a CD of the last lecture, they are exhilaratingly

True heroics

MEN OF VISION By Amy Zahl Gottlieb Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £25 ISBN 0 297 84230 7

IN THE teeth of initial British and Palestinian opposition to Jewish refugee immigration, the Central British Fund for German Jewry worked virtually alone from 1933, and after Kristallnacht in 1938 with other continental refugee organisations, to rescue German and Austrian Jews. Material from newly opened archives enriches an absorbing narrative o this achievement. Gottlieb ar ranged Oscar Schindler's emi gration to Argentina in 1949.

IAIN FINLAYSON

Poignancy in the song of evening

usan Minot is a writer of absolute recall with a selecof admirable economy of admirable economy and accuracy. She can create climate and character in a few lines or a snatch of dialogue. Her first novel. Monkeys, is spare, rich and moving: in its brief span it sum-mons up the entire life of a family over a matter of years. I thought it remarkable. Evening displays the same gifts. This time, a whole life is suggested, but with the extra dimension of memory. Monkeys moved across the years. homing in upon scenes of

immediacy.

Evening has an elderly woman, dying of cancer, revisit a fleeting love affair from way back in her girlhood. Those few days of intense emotional and sexual experience are interwoven with moments from other points in her life: with her spells of lucidity as she lies in bed, and with the off-stage murmurings of her children as they watch and wait. This method allows a combination

tion of those apparently rantypify memory as we all know it. Ann's instant obsession with the stranger who was a friend's wedding is given with all the intensity of direct narrative, as she moves from the . euphoria of mutual attraction to dismay and doubt when she learns that the man has a preg-nant fiancée — and eventually to the anguish of loss.

The evocation of the wed-

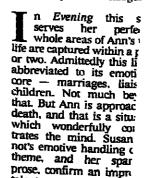
ding events is masterly - a time, a place and a whole group of people are sharply presented in a few crucial scenes. A prosperous East Coast family is marrying off one of its daughters. As parents, relatives and fellow guests eddy around them, Ann and Harris fall in love. And then in the wake of the wedding, as the group of young people continue to roister. there is a hideous accident. But the lovers were elsewhere.

PENELOPE LIVELY

EVENING By Susan Minot Chatto & Windus, £15,99 ISBN 0 7011 6855 2



in bed together. Death and sex are set in apposition. In this central consummation scene it is not so much a question of the earth moving as of a sustained seismic event, extended over several pages. Susan Minot abandons her usual concision and glancing evocation of mood or ma ner in favour of all-out lingu tic assault. This is far less eff tive and I trust it is not goi to become a habit, because I strength is this ability to o jure up the flavour of a pl with a few seminal furni ings, and a person from throwaway line of dialogus

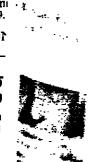


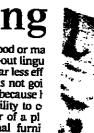
Penelope Lively's latest

nd beh tebunk













MHURSDAY BLEEK

BOOKS

Awe for a Shakespeare in love with humanity

Bardolatry, unashamed and unabashed, flows like

divine wine for the master who 'invented our feelings'

arold Bloom immediately pre-empts the more ferocious or fashionable criticby describing himself as "Bloom Bintosaurus Bardolater". There ar occasions when he fulfils his 19-century destiny; he out-Halitts Hazlitt and he might have wrten, with the Lambs, Tales fro Shakespear. But the Lambs aresilent now and we need the voi: of Bloom to blow away the ske of academic discourse which is wen ever more tightly around the rovels and plays and poems whith are unhappily called "texts".

Tis wonderfully rhetorical accour of Shakespeare's plays is a tri-umpantly late 20th-century work, hower, scorning Marxist, femiust nd post-structuralist criticism n it assertion of human values. Bloon's favourite verb is "worship" and is favoured adjective is "ran-

id": between these two poles he

nake his way steadily through the

reatrea of Shakespearean drama.

He elucidates the plot, he meditates upon character and destiny, he falls in and out of love with several major and minor characters - one, for example, in Lear, is "madly attractive" - and berates actors and filmmakers and producers for failing to live up to the "mortal god" who "invented the human as we continue to know it" and who "invented our feelings".

Perhaps Shakespeare invented Bloom himself, since the American critic refers to himself at one point as "a parody of Falstaff" — yet, of course, Falstaff parodies himself, And that is Bloom's point; Sheke And that is Bloom's point; Shakespeare outmatches and outdistances any attempt to analyse him. Where is Shakespeare himself in

all of this? Is he homosexual, or Catholic, or sceptic, or patriot? He is all of these and none of them, a man who in Bloom's account is pos-sessed by so rich an inner freedom that he rises above the circumstances of his century. Borges once wrote

that "all men who repeat a line of Shakespeare are William Shakesepeare"; he has an identity so fluid that it can still encompass everyone. He held no beliefs, and had no opinions, beyond the context of his immediate work. From the evidence of this volume it is by no means clear that, in the inmost recesses of his being beyond the so-cial self, he ever believed in God. The fruit of Bloom's veneration

can be sweet indeed. There are some fine insights - such as that concerned with the stubborn unin-terpretability of Julius Caesar where the relationship of Brutus and Caesar is never clarified. There are some memorable phrases, also, such as the "cognitive music" of Love's Labour's Lost. But Bloom's central vision is that of character, in particular those of Falstaff and Hamlet which for him run the gamut of the human. He is instinctively right in his readings of the plays since he arrives at his judgments by



a kind of empathetic reasoning. By a strange but necessary paradox Bloom's method is the reverse of Shakesneare's: whereas the Bard's genius flows outward toward characters through a magnetised language, Bloom's talent lies in incor-

porating them within his own style.

is like hearing the plays through a

So Bloom booms out. The effect

hilarating. It is reported that the author has a photographic memory and that may account for his full immersion in each play. Reading his descriptions of Cymbeline or Romeo and Juliet affords the strangest sensation of being there. Samuel Butler once wrote that

"the great characters live as truly as the memory of dead men. For the life after death, it is not necessary that a man or woman have lived," That is why, in Bloom's reckoning, Lear or Cleopatra still exist through Shakespeare rather than through history. He says, wisely, that "when we think of the Devil, we are as likely to reflect on lago as on Satan". We are all self-reflective because of Hamlet. Thus the influence of these plays is "incalcula-ble", "his universality", he writes, will defeat you; his plays know more than you do . . .

It is instructive and necessary to experience Bloom's "awe" which he translates as "wonder, gratitude, shock, amazement" in a period when awe for any author is out of fashion. What else should a critic be but a celebrant of literature? But, at the risk my of sounding

series of stage whispers, but it is ex- like one of those academic reductionists whom Bloom deplores, it may be possible to question the subtitle of this study. Bloom constantly repeats the phrase "the invention of the human" without ever properly explaining it. The fact that the jacket of the book has a detail from Michelangelo's Sistine ceiling might suggest that other artists have some claim to that eminence: the reader of the New Testament might surmise that there the "human" is illuminated as well as the divine. The question remains open.

Yet this is unquestionably a fine work of Shakespearean criticism. filled with animanon and fired by a determination to extol the virtues of great literature at a time when literarure itself lies upon the margins of human awareness. Bloom is a scholar who has subdued his scholarship in order to speak freely and loudly about those values which matter most to him. They should also matter most to the world.

SHAKESPEARE The Invention of the Human By Harold Bloom Fourth Estate, £25 ISBN 1841 15047 9



DIARY & LETTERS

Time to spell it out

■ READERS who have just learned that "gmo" mean "genetically modified organism" will soon be asking themselves what "fgm" means. This grimmer acronym stands for "female genital mutilation", the subject of two books appearing next mouth. Somali supermodel Waris Dirie publishes her autobiography. Desert Flower (Virago, £9.99) which continues her campaign against fgm in Africa. Also published in paperback is Fauziya Kassindja's Do They Hear You When You Cry? (Bantam, £5.99) — Kassindja fled from Togo to America at the age of 17 to escape from a forced marriage and ritual circumcision.

■ THERE are discussions of two other sombre subjects coming up in London. At 6.30pm next Monday, at the Congress Hall, 23-28 Great Russell Street WCl, Harold Pinter, Julie Christie and Billie Whitelaw discuss torture in the light of Neil Belton's book The Good Listener (tickets £10); at 7pm on Wednesday, March 17, at the University of London Senate House, Robert McCrum. the literary editor of The Observer, talks about life after his stroke (tickets £5).

FRIENDS of Peter Porter flocked to the Australian High Commission on Tuesday night to celebrate his 70th birthday and the publication of his Collected Poems. But who were conspicuous by their absence? Representatives of the Oxford University Press, publishers

and executioners of the book.

■ THERE has been much talk lately of the Brits wanting nothing more in life than a Georgian house in the country. Horace Walpole took a different view of the matter, even though his father Sir Robert owned one of the grandest of all houses, Houghton in Norfolk. Writing 250 years ago, Horace spoke up for brownfield sites: "Think what London would be, if the chief houses were in it. and not dispersed like great rarity-plums in a vast pudding of country.

■ TIMES readers are invited to a rare evening with John le Carré on Sunday, March 28. at 7pm at the LSE Peacock Theatre in Portugal Street, London WC1 (tickets £9; call 0171-863 8222). You can ask the

BOOKSHOP

Lo and behold the debunker

Yet another book comes close to telling us that nearly.

werything in the Bible is wrong, says Gabriel Josipovici

on the Bible being published which cims that everyone has got tings wrong till now and that is work will finally put the cord straight.
These books are not written

t outright cranks. They are to result of years of scholarsip and a great deal of bught. For the first 50 pages œ is almost persuaded, but un the fact that everything is eplainable by the new theory ad by the time one has nched page 100 one has lost irrest: it is all too neat, too priect, the author has sealed uevery gap — so one ceases toelieve him.

This book does not quite fall in that category, but it comes pilously close. Thompson is Pifessor of Old Testament Sdies at the University of Co-

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Section 1884

THE LOUIS HELD IN ARROY

penhagen, and he has an intimate knowledge of the histori-cal geography of the Near East. His central thesis is simple and persuasive for too long archaeologists working in the area have been misled by the myth that what the Bible recounts must have a basis in reality; at the same time theologians have been misled by the myth that, with a few adjustments here and there, the findings of

archaeology are underpinning their views of the growth and understanding of the Hebrew A dispassionate look at the evidence, says Thompson, shows that none of this stands

up. The archaeological evi-dence simply finds no place for an Egyptian captivity, an exodus into Canaan or the rise of a monarchy centred in Jeru-

exile, the destruction of Jerusalem and the eventual restoration under Cyrus, the evidence shows that this is a fiction loosely based on the deportation policies of the Babylonians and Persians.

Deftly he describes the history of the region as it appears to the archaeologist from Neo-lithic times to the 1st century BC, bringing out the way in which climate affected population movements and these in turn affected the delicate ecology of the region. He brings which the trade economy of the region developed under the twin constraints of climatic change and geopolitics — the constant jostling for power in this area of Egypt in the South and other empires in the North and East, and, eventually, the Romans in the West. By the time he has finished there



No more than myth? Moses and Tzipporah from Dreamworks' The Prince of Egypt (Thames & Hudson, £24.99)

place for the people and events recounted by the Bible. But how then to understand the Bible? This, the second wing of Thompson's revisionist diptych, is much less persuasive and much more dependent on his own, sometimes bizarre, as-

The Bible, he suggests, was mainly written as late as the 1st century BC and reflects the sectarianism of the Maccabbean era projected back into founding myths and legends: The Bible is not a history of anyone's past. The story of the chosen and rejected Israel that it presents is a philosophical metaphor of a mankind that

has lost its way." The stories of the Bible are meant to teach: thus the stories of Saul and David teach us that God has to be obeyed unquestioningly; the books of Job and Jonah are satires on false views of the deity, mocking the gods rather as the Greek playwrights did:

THE BIBLE IN HISTORY **How Writers** Create a Past

By Thomas Thompson Jonathan Cape, £25 ISBN 0 224 03977 6



Moses, David and Jesus are mythic figures, "sons of God". who show us that we cannot reach God directly, can only imagine Him through intermediaries. In essence "One could well cite Plato's Socrates as expressing the central ideology of the Bible's composition: to know oneself is the beginning of wisdom." There is so much wrong with this it is difficult to know where to start. I sympathise with Thompson in his belief that post-Enlightenment Europe imposed a view of history and reality on the Bible it was never meant to bear, that to search for "the historical Moses" or "the historical Jesus" will not ground our belief any more firmly and will only stop us seeing what the Bible does have to offer.

ut his rather Protes-tant belief that "to walk in God's way" is simply to be a good person and his failure to see that the biblical stories are rarely black and white mean that he never tackles the central issue. And that is that these stories ask to be read as having happened and that for Jews and Christians their belief rests on remembering something - the Exodus, the

Passion - which these narratives tell us happened. This is quite different from the myths and legends and belief systems of other ancient Near Eastern cultures and needs, if not explanation, at least acknowledgement. Thompson provides no foot-notes to his 400 pages of argu-

ment, so there is no means of telling if he has taken these issues on board; and, since he tends to repeat chunks of his argument at frequent intervals like a mantra, the feeling grows that he is talking to himself and not to others. One wishes that he would stop and listen to the text and occasionally admit that there are mysteries and puzzles. Hineni. here am I. is one of the most frequent expressions of the Hebrew Bible, picked up by Jesus when He says, in the Garden, "not as I will but as thou wilt". One wishes some of that openness and humility had passed on to Professor Thompson.

THE SECTIMES

author a question by e-mailing johnlecarre@the-times.co.uk. or visit our website at www. the-times.co.uk/lecarre.html.

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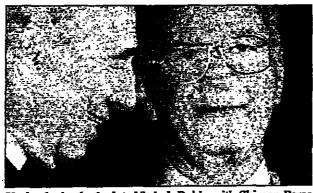
n the summer of 1994, a

shy, gruff-voiced Israeli addressed the US Congss. 1. military ID number 343, retired general in the Is-rl Defence Forces in the pst, consider myself to be a scier in the army of peace toov." Two years later, at a propice rally in Tel Aviv, whak Rabin was assassinate - not by a Hamas suicide lmber, nor a death squad dispched by Saddam Hussein, it by a young Jewish zealot ppared to obey only the 613 ernal commandments of the Irah. One of the Sons of bht had given God a helping ind in the Divine Plan to stroy the Oslo agreement. Yigal Amir, the son of Yemeimmigrants, was studying w and computer science at hr-llan University. His faurite reading included Fredcck Forsyth's The Day of the ckal - de Gaulle, he felt, ld done to France just what thin was doing to Israel.

He prepared himself for the urder for almost two years. shough he eventually shot lbin with a revolver, he and k accomplices fantasised rout a range of schemes, iduding use of a boobyapped microphone, an antink missile and floating explores (to be sent through the Ime Minister's plumbing). Michael Karpin and Ina ledman believe that the offial inquiry radically reduced e murder of the Israeli ime Minister to a one-off bse in security. As in the quiry into the Cave of the ltriarchs massacre two years eviously, the panel confined elf to establishing the facts. arpin and Friedman set

emselves the much more am-

lious task of scrutinising the



Untimely death: the late Yitzhak Rabin with Shimon Peres

NAME OF GOD By Michael Karpin and lna Friedman Granta, £13.99 ISBN 186207 2418 URBER IN THE NAME

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MURDER IN THE

religious, social and political factors that fuelled the attack. In the euphoria created by Israel's victory in the Six-Day War, an old but still potent idea had revived among a small group of religious Zionists - that the messianic re-

demption was finally at hand. After Likud came to power in 1977 under Menachem Begin, the drive to settle the occupied territories powered forward as official policy. By the 1990s. the gulf between the secular and religious camps in Israel yawned dangerously. But as Karpin and Friedman reveal, these strains ran deeper than clear-cut political difference - a century after the birth of Zionism, the true fault-line in Israeli society lay

exposed: "On one side of it, a

community that saw clerical-

ism, messianism and ethnocentrism as the continuation of the Zionist revolution towards a purer expression of authentic Jewish values. On the other, those that saw the rejection of modernism, pluralism and pragmatism as a throwback to the ills that Zionism emerged to cure."

By the early 1990s, certain orthodox rabbis had revived two ancient halachic principles - din rodef (the duty to kill a Jew who imperils the life or property of another Jew) and din moser (the duty to eliminate a Jew who intends to surrender another Jew to non-Jewish authorities). The authors believe that Amir sought and received rabbinical confirmation that Rabin fell under the rubric of din rodef.

They also demonstrate that in spite of American Jewry's overwhelming support for the Oslo agreement, incitement against Rabin was even more strident in America than in Israel. Within days of the murder, defence funds for Amir were established in Brooklyn, and ultra-Orthodox Jews were appending to Rabin's name the curse "May his name and memory be blotted out", a malediction more often applied to the likes of Stalin and Hitler.

This is a grotesque and harrowing tale, and Karpin and Friedman tell it compellingly. Their sombre conclusion is that historians will see it as the story of society that turned against itself; a society which, when it had the opportunity to move from tragedy to catharsis, fled from that pros-

JULIA **NEUBERGER** I, DREYFUS

By Bernice Rubens Little, Brown, £16.99 ISBN 0 316 64809 4



lage, or the hostile teacher

uted to the literary world about Sam Temple, the Jewish agent who acts for Dreyfus. seem to be a caricature of modern, understated English anti-Semitism, which is considerably less prevalent than Rubens suggests. Hostility to Jews does exist - but is nothing like that shown towards other

That in itself makes Rubens's scenario unbelievable. But it is the denouement which fails to convince. As the

ends are neatly tied, with Dreyfus vindicated, he goes on a pilgrimage with his family to Paris, where his grandparents lived, and then to Auschwitz. While there are some Jews of the Dreyfus variety, of whom many have relatives who perished in the Holocaust, this end is too neat. While there is a journey many of us need to make to follow the route our relatives took to their unspeakable end, to feature that pilgrimage within this plot cheapens the debt of memory. It labours the horror with a sledgehammer, and it demonstrates no sensitivity to private pain,

nation as reality beckons through the sense of place. So, though Rubens writes like a dream, her plot both infuriates and lacks credibility. Her central message - that Jewish identity is not to be denied - is lost in the irritation at being caught in a web of intrigue, unbearable pain, and a lack of subtlety in the depiction of characters emotionally described but, other than Dreyfus's own, barely felt,

nor to the explosion of imagi-

SAVE ON THESE TITLES

I accuse the author of losing the true plot

hen Emile Zola wrote his highly charged polemic, f'accuse, in 1898, his target was the high-ranking officers in the French Army who were responsible for framing Captain Alfred Dreyfus, a Jewish officer accused of passing secrets to the Germans. While Zola was found guilty of libel and sentenced to a year in jail (which he avoided by fleeing to England), he was, of course, proved right. Yet it was 1906 before Dreyfus was fully vindi-cated. Even then he could not believe the degree of anti-Semitism prevalent in France. The eponymous hero of Bernice Rubens's novel is Sir Alfred Dreyfus, head of Britain's leading school. He. too, is framed; a child is killed and the murder blamed on him. There is a conspiracy orches-

Reading this beautifully written novel, one is left with a deep unease. Despite some evidence of far right-wing activity in Britain, it is hard to believe in recruitment to it within a leading public school. The reader's credulity is further stretched by coincidences that lead to Dreyfus's framing: the

trated by the far right wing.

while Dreyfus himself denies

his Jewishness.

anti-Semitism is unacceptable

collector of Hitler memorabilia living in the same Kent vilwho is the lead recruiter. The kinds of remarks antrib-

minorities. In most circles in

Western Europe expressed

Consecutive sentence after recall to prison

Regina v Lowe Regina v Leask

Before Lord Bingham of Cornhill. Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Dyson and Mr Justice Brian Smedley [Judgment February 12]

Where an offender, who commit-ted a new offence while released on licence, was ordered under section 40 of the Criminal Justice Act 1991 to return to prison to serve the unexpired part of his sentence, section 102 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 did not prohibit the court from imposing a sentence for the ew offence to run consecutively to the period of return provided the ofthe section 40 term before the con-

secutive term was passe The Court of Appeal, Criminal Division, so held when:

(i) Dismissing an appeal by Trevor Lowe against a sentence of three years imposed by Judge Kamil sitting at Leeds Crown Court following his plea of guilty to robbery, committed while he was re-leased on licence in respect of a sentence of two years defention in a young offender institution for an earlier cobbery.

The judge ordered that he return to prison for the outstanding part of his earlier sentence and that the new sentence should run consecutively to that part;

(ii) granting an application by Stephen Leask for leave to appeal. but dismissing his appeal against a sentence of 12 months imprisonment imposed by Mr Recorder Graeme Williams, QC, at Derby Crown Court. for offences committed while he was released on li-cence in respect of a 30-month ser-

The recorder ordered his return

of the earlier sentence and that the new sentence should run consecu-

the vertical consecutively to that unexpired part.
Each defendant challenged the order made on the ground that section 102 of the 1998 Act precluded the court from imposing a sentence for the new offence which was consecutive to the term ordered under section 40 of the 1991 Act.

Mr Ian Storey for Lowe; Mr Richard Ace for Leask; Mr David Perry. Mr Martin Haigh and Miss Julie Warburton for the Crown; Miss Sallie Bennett-Jenkins as amicus

THE LORD CHIEF JUSTICE said that the 1991 Act drew an im-portant distinction between short and long term prisoners, defined

Since entitlement to release became closely dependent on the overall length of the term to be served. became even more important than before, in the case of multiple ences, to determine their overall length with precision.

To meet that need section 51(2). as originally enacted, provided that for the purposes of any refer-ence in Part II of the 1991 Act to the term to which a person had been sentenced, or which, or part of which he had served, consecutive terms and terms which were wholly or partly concurrent were to be

treated as a single term. Section 40 of the 1991 Act was passed to fill the loophole in the sentencing regime whereby offenders released from prison with the benefit of remission or parole before expiry of the nominal term of their sentences could not be ordered to serve the remitted balance if they offended again during the nominal term of their sentences

It became clear, however, that to prison for the unexpired period the apparently straightforward forthe length of the single term was

difficult to apply in some cases and productive of anomaly. To address those problems the section had been amended by section 101 of the 1998 Act to provide: "(2) For the purposes of any refer-ence in this Part ... to the term of im-

prisonment to which a person has been sentenced or which, or part of which, he has served, consecutive terms and terms which are wholly or partly concurrent shall be treated as a single term if - (a) the sentences were passed on the same occasion; or (b) where they were passed on different occasions, the person has not been released under this Part at any time during the period beginning with the first and ending with the last of those occa-

From section 51(2)(b) it was clear that Parliament did not intend two sentences imposed on different occasions to be treated as a single term if the offender had been released from the first of the sentences under Part II of the 1991 Act be-fore imposition of the second sen-

The defendants' argument de pended on section 102 of the 1998 Act which provided: "(1) A court sentencing a person to a term of im-prisonment shall not order or direct that the term shall commence on the expiration of any other sentence of imprisonment from which he has been released under Part II of the 1991 Act ... "

"(2) Expressions used in this sec-tion shall be construed as if they were contained in that Part."

They had submitted that when an offender was ordered under see tion 40 of the 1991 Act to serve an was not imposing a new sentence but reactivating an old sentence, from which the offender had been released under Part II of the 1991 Act and that therefore the imposition of a sentence consecutively to such a term was specifically pre-cluded by section 102.

The short answer to that submis sion was that by virtue of section 40(4)(a) of the 1991 Act, the period ordered for return was to be taken as a sentence of imprisonment for the purposes of Part II and there was nothing in section 102 to prechude the imposition of a term con-secutive to that sentence at any time before the offender had been released from it.

The defendant had particularly relied on R v Worthing and District Justices. Ex parte Varley (Note) [1998] I WLR \$19) but that case had turned on the construc-tion of section 133 of the Magistrates' Courts Act 1980.

The return period under section 40 was taken to be a sentence of imprisonment for the purposes of Part II of the 1991 Act in order to ensure that account was taken of it when determining the length of the single term to which the offender was subject. It could not be regardfrom which he had been released for purposes of section 102.

The defendants had founded their submission on an article in Sentencing News (Issue 4, Decemher 16, 1998) entitled "New legislation" where it was argued that an order for return was not a new sen-tence but the reactivation of an old; that the reactivated sentence and the sentence for the later offence sion and that the offender had

Therefore, it was said, the section 40 term and the new term were not to be treated as a single heen released from the earlier sentence section 102 had to be understood to prohibit a court from imposing a new term consecutive to an order for return under section

The court could not accept that argument.

For the purposes of Part 11 of the 1991 Act an order for return was to be taken to be a sentence of imprisomment: see section 40(4)(a).

If, as section 40(4)(b) required, a sentence imposed for later offences was concurrent with or consecutive to the period of return ordered under section 40, the two terms would satisfy the requirements of section 51(2)(a) or (b) and would therefore form part of a single term provided the offender was not released from the section 40 term before the sentence for the new offences was

Nothing in section 102 prohibited the imposition of a new term consecutive to an order for return under section 40 because the section 40 term was for purposes of Part 11 a sentence of imprisonment which the offender was ordered to serve and from which he had not been released. .

Therefore, section 102 did not prohibit the imposition of a sentence to run consecutively to any period of return ordered under section 40 provided the offender was not released from the section 40 term before the consecutive term was passed.

Solicitors: Norrie Waite & Co. Sheffield; Dorians, Derby; Crown Prosecution Service. Sheffield;

tence, the court which so ordered Recovering overpayment made by mistake

Nurdin and Peacock plc v D. B. Ramsden and Co Ltd Before Mr Justice Neuberger [Judgment February 5]

Where a plaintiff made an overpayment following a mistake of law, recovery did not depend on whether he made the payment under the mistaken belief that he was liable to do so. It was sufficient to ground recovery that the plaintiff's mistake caused him to make the over-

payment. Mr.Justice Neuberger so held in the Chancery Division when deciding that the plaintiffs, Nurdin and Peacock plc. could recover ten overpayments of rent made to the defendants, D. B. Ramsden and Co-

Mr Jonathan Brock, QC and Mr Alexander Hill-Smith for the plain-tiffs. Mr Edward Nugee, QC and Mr Patrick H. Walker for the de-

MR JUSTICE NEUBERGER said that the defendants granted a lease of premises to Linrock Ltd at a rent of £207.683 a year payable in equal quarterly instalments of 551,920.75. The lease was subsequently transferred by Linrock to

The plaintiffs subsequently received invoices for quarterly rent in the sum of \$66,755,25. The plaintiffs paid those invoices in full.

Gregory v Shepherds (a

Miss Katharine Holland for Mr

PUBLIC NOTICES

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LEGAL NOTICES

INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
AUTHORIZATION OF DISOLVENCY
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State under the provisions of the
shows Act for multiplication to act

Before Judge Behrens. QC

[Judgment February 8]

Firm)

It was not until early 1997 that they wrote to the defendants asking for an explanation as to why the rent demanded was at the rate of £66,755.25 a quarter when from

the title deeds it appeared that the correct rent was £51,920.75. Matters could not be resolved and in June 1997 proceedings were commenced. At a preliminary hear-ing, his Lordship rejected the defendants' claim for rectification and held, that as a matter of construction the rent due under the lease was £207.683; accordingly there could be no doubt that an overpayment had been made.

The plaintiffs contended that the first overpayment was in respect of the rent due on February I, 1996, followed by overpayments in respect of the rent due in May, August. November 1996 and Febru-

The rent due in May 1997 was paid even though the plaintiffs had been advised that the rent was only due at £207.683 a year.

However, the payment was made at the higher level in the belief that, if the rent was not paid in full as demanded by the defendants, there was a risk that the lease after the plaintiffs had been mistakenly advised that any overpayment

would be recoverable. His Lordship concluded that the the overpayments of rent made from February 1996 to February 1997 on the ground that they were paid as a mistake of fact.

As to the overpayment made in May 1997, the plaintiffs contended that it was made under the mistaken belief that it would be entitled to recover the overpayment if the court found in its favour on the issues of construction and rectification. That mistake was a mistake of law and following the House of Lords decision in Kleinwort Ben-son Ltd v Lincoln City Council ([1998] 3 WLR 1095) it was now re-

coverable on that basis.

Against that, Mr Nugee contended that nothing in Kleinwort affected the previous law so far as the May 1997 payment was concerned. That was because that payment was not made by the plaintiffs under a mistake as to whether or not they were liable to make it, but under a mistake as to the plaintiffs' right to get it back.

Mr Nugee contended that that decision was concerned only with a case where a payment was made under a mistake of law by the payer as to whether or not he was liable to make the payment.

plaintiffs' argument was correct. First, as a matter of principle, the correct question which the court whether money was paid under a

mistake of law was: would the payment have occurred if the payer had not made the alleged mistake? It was hard to see a good reason

for holding that a person should be entitled to recover a payment made under a mistake, if that mistake related to the question of his liability, but that he should not be entitled to recover the payment if the mistake was of some other nature.

His Lordship said that he was hesitant about laying down any general principle so soon after the decision in Kleinwort but it seemed clear that in order to found a claim for repayment of money paid under a mistake of law it was neces. sary for the payer to establish not only that the mistake was made but also that, but for the mistake, he would not have paid the money.

It might also be that the payer had to go further and establish, for instance, that the mistake was directly connected to the overpay-ment and/or was connected to the payer/payee relationship. His Lordship said that he derived assistance from Lord Hoff-

mann in Kleinwort, who in relation to a client seeking advice from nary client would have great diffi-

culty in understanding how these distinctions can arise out of a rule

such a lawyer. It often happened

that a solicitor instructed in a mat-

ter would need the services of an ex-

pert. In a professional negligence

action he might, for example, need

to instruct counsel or an expert val-

the advice or services of counsel or

the valuer were part and parcel of

the services provided by the solici-

tor so as to make the solicitor re-

sponsible for any default by them.

Experts were independent profes-

sionals instructed by the solicitor

take it out of the normal situation. Mr Ivars was an independent ex-

There was nothing in this case to

t instructed by Shepherds on be

on behalf of the client.

It had never been suggested that

the obligation was valid and it has subsequently turned out that it was not. In principle, the question should not turn upon what other people might have thought was the law but upon what he mought was

So in the instant case it would be surprising if the payee was unjust-ly enriched because the payer thought he was liable to make the payment, but that he would not be unjustly enriched if the payer, knowing that there was an argu ment as to whether he was liable or not, made the payment in the clear belief that he thought it would be recoverable if it turned out not to have been due as a maner of law.

For the issue of recoverability to turn upon a nice analysis as to the law appeared to his Lordship to be almost as undestrable as it was for the recoverability to turn upon whether the mistake made by the payer was one of fact or law.

His Lordship said that his conclusions were further supported by the dictum of Mr Justice Robert Goff in Bardays Bank Ltd v W. J. Simms Son and Cooke (Southern) Ltd and Another ([1980] 1 QB 677).

it was not a prerequisite of recovery that the plaintiff must have mis-takenly believed that he was liable to the defendant to pay the money to him it was sufficient to control recovery that the plaintiff's mistake should have caused him to pay the money.

Barclays Bank was decided 20

years before Kleinwort when it was thought that money paid under a mistake of law was irrecover able. However, the test propounded by Mr Justice Robert Goff should apply equally to a case where the money was paid under a mistake of law. Given that a claim for money paid under a mistake, whether of fact or law, was a claim based on restitution, it was hard to see why logically there should be

Solicitors: Brookstreet Des Roches, Witney: John Barkers, Grims-

oundant evidence on which the tribunal had been entitled so to find. The Court of Appeal had held that, in determining whether the tax borne on any services was creditable input tax, the services had to

House builders can

deduct agents' VAT

agents' services were supplied to

that, on the evidence, the agents' services were supplied to both Re-

drow and the purchasers. The judge had held that there had been

The tribunal had concluded

ne purchasers, not to Redrow.

The taxpayer company, Redrow Group plc, was entitled to deduct as input tax from its liability to output tax value-added tax charged to it by estate agents pursuant to a scheme whereby, to encourage sales of houses built by it, it agreed have a direct and immediate link with the taxable transactions": see paragraph 19 of the decision of the to pay the agents' fees on sale of European Court of Justice in BLP prospective purchasers' existing Group plc v Customs and Excise The House of Lords allowed an appeal by Redrow from the Court Commissioners (Case C-4/94) (1966) I WLR 174, 198-199).

Commissioners of Customs

and Excise v Redrow Group

Before Lord Steyn, Lord Goff of

Chieveley, Lord Hope of Craighead, Lord Hutton and Lord

(Speeches February I)

had dismissed the commission

Added Tax Tribunal which had al-

lowed Redrow's appeal from the

Mr Richard Bramwell, QC and

Mr John Dick for Redrow; Mr Paul Lasok, QC and Mrs Melanie

LORD MILLETT said that Re-

drow was the representative mem-

ber of a group of companies almost

all of which were involved in con-

structing new houses for sale in the

diting the purchaser's own sale

and providing the purchaser with

financial incentive to buy a Re-

To achieve those objectives Re-

drow chose an estate agent, taking care to choose the more effective

agents, instructed him to value the

purchaser's home and handle the

him to achieve a sale. It also agreed to pay his fee on the sale, though

only if the purchaser completed the

in respect of the agents' fees. The commissioners disputed the deduc-

Redrow had deducted input tax

purchase of a Redrow home.

ale and maintained pressure on

private sector.

drow home.

properties.

Appeal (Lord Justice Simon They had held that, viewed objec-Brown, Lord Justice Peter Gibson tively, the estate agents' services were directly and immediately linked to the sale of the purchaser's home and not to the concurrent and Mr Justice McCullough) (The Times July 3, 1997: [1997] STC 1053], which had allowed an appeal by the Commissioners of Cussale of a Redrow home; according-ly, they were supplied to the purtoms and Excise from Mr Justice Potts ([1996] STC 365). The judge Article 6(1) of the Sixth Council appeal from the Manchester Value

Directive (77/388/EEC) (OJ 1977 L145/I) defined "supply of services" as any transaction that did not constitute a supply of goods. The Direc-tive was given effect in the United ngdom by the Value Added Tax Act 1983.

Section 3(2)(b), reflecting article 6(1), provided that anything, including the granting, assignment or surrender of any right, that was not a supply of goods but was done for a consideration was a supply of

Credit for input tax was gov-Most prospective purchasers erned by sections 14 and 15. had an existing home to sell and could not proceed with the pur-Section 14(3)(a), as amended by Schedule 3. paragraph 15 and Schedule 18, Part V(I) to the Fichase unless and until they had a nance (No 2) Act 1992, defined the To deal with that problem Redrow operated a sales incentive scheme with the objectives of expeinput tax of a taxable person as:

tax on the supply to him of any goods or services ... being ... goods or services used or to be used for the purpose of any business carried on ... by him..." The Court of Appeal had mis-read the BLP case. It had been

about attribution, not the identity of the person to whom the services were supplied. Paragraph 19 of the judgment had been concerned with the proper interpretation of article 17(5) of the Directive.

That provided for the case where goods or services were used for both taxable and exempt sup-plies and could not therefore be linked exclusively with either. Paragraph 19 had to be reads denying the right to deduct trim respect of goods or services tat were exclusively linked with aexempt output. So understood, had no bearing on the present cas

One should start with the talayer's claim to deduct tax. The hestion to be asked was whethe the taxpayer had obtained anythis at all used or to be used for thourposes of his business in rerul for the payment of which the talo be deducted formed part.

That would normally corist of the supply of goods or serves to the taxpayer, but it might study well consist of the right mave goods delivered or service rendered to a third party. The sant of such a right was itself a suply of services.

Redrow had not merely erived a benefit from the services lat the agents supplied to the punasers and for which it paid. It id thosen the agents and introded them. In return for the parient of their fees it had obtained acoutac tual right to have the purhasus' homes valued and marked to monitor the agents' perirmatee and maintain pressure foa quek sale and to override any aeraton in the agents' instruction that he

purchasers might be trinded to Everything that the agnts lad done had been done at Rerow se-quest and in accordance fith itsnstructions and, in the cents tal had happened, at its evense, he doing of those acts had onstitued

a supply of services to Redrow. It was sufficient that Redaw had obtained something of value in return for the payment of he agents' fees in those cass wher it had become liable to pur them ad that what it had obtained had ben obtained for the purposes of s business.

It was not necessary that the should have been a direct and itmediate link between the agens services and the sale of a particula Redrow home, though if it we necessary that condition too woul have been satisfied or the facts.

Lord Hope delivend an opinio agreeing with Lord Millett at Lord Steyn, Lord Giff and Lol Hutton agreed with Lord Ho and Lord Millett.

Solicitors: Trowers & Hamili for Mr lain Mason, Mold: Soli

Prisoner has no right to challenge allocation

Regina v Secretary of State for the Home Department, Ex parte Mehmet Regina v Same, Ex parte

O'Connor Before Mr Justice Turner

[Judgment February 9]

The allocation of a prisoner to a close supervision centre prison unit did not so affect his personal rights as to give him a common law right to an opportunity to make informed representations

against his allocation Mr Justice Turner so held in the Queen's Bench Division in a reserved judgment when dismissing applications by Rifat Mehmet and Sean O'Connor for judicial review of the decisions of the Secretary of State for the Home Department, made in March and February 1998 respectively, to allocate and thereafter to detain the applicants within close supervision centres under rule 43A of the Prison Rules (SI 1064 No 388 as inserted by the Prison (Amendment) Rules (SI 1998 No

Mr Tim Owen for the apoli-

cants; Mr Phillip Sales for the Home Secretary.

MR JUSTICE TURNER said the applicants, both serving prisoners, were allocated to and contin-ued to be detained by the respondse sudervision cei tres, which were special prison units for problematic or disruptive prisoners, designed to return them to a settled, acceptable pattern of

The respondent submitted that it had informed the applicants that the reason for allocation was that they had been persistently difficult and disruptive, making transfer to a normal location undesirable.

The applicants argued that they were not given proper reasons for the decisions to allocate or detain them, or an opportunity to make representations against the decisions to which they were entitled as a matter of fairness under the com-

His Lordship said that mere allocation did not adversely affect the release date of a prisoner or his status, or necessarily result in harsher prison conditions, and was neither intended to be nor was a punishment, but a benefit in assisting nanved hebavious

Eli Later Commence

Table Name of the Sec

1. 1. 1. 1.

It could not, therefore, so aff his personal freedom rights th the common law would intervi and require that he be sufficient against him and given an oppor nity to make representation standards of procedural fairnes

Accordingly, the decisions of respondent were not unlawful. However, as the scheme i been introduced in an unimage tive manner, prisoners failed for its introduction and becale deeply disillusioned.

The respondent gave insufcient thought to the difficult which could and did arise a ought initially to have conferred right enabling informed repres

That was, however, la achieved by a revision of the cle supervision centre operating stai-

Solicitors: Bhatt Murphy, Fibury and Hickman Rose, Treast

Prosecution not bound by undertaking

pert instructed by Shepherds on be-half of Mr Gregory and Shepherds were not responsible for any losses Preston Borough Council v McGrath

Before Mr Justice Burton

[Judgment December 21]

While a defendant in criminal proceedings was subject to an implied undertaking preventing docu-ments disclosed to him as unused material by the prosecuting authority from being used for any collateral purpose without the leave of the court. the prosecuting authority was not bound by any reciprocal implied undertaking not to use such material for any other pur-pose collateral to the criminal pro-

Mr Justice Burton, sitting as an additional judge of the Chancery Division, so held in a reserved judgment dismissing the summons of the defendant. Francis Joseph Mo-Grath, to strike out as an abuse of process the action of the plaintiff, Preston Borough Council, for dain ages for breach of fiduciary duty. Mr Bartley Jones, QC, for Pres-

ion Borough Council: Mr Michael Supperstone. QC and Mr Daniel Janner for Mr McGrath. MR JUSTICE BURTON said that the defendant was a councillor

on Preston Borough Council from 1973 to 1992 and deputy leader of the council from 1982 to 1990. In De cember 1985 the council entered into a development agreement with Balfour Beatty Ltd. Mr McGrath, as a member of the relevant council committees,

was allegedly closely involved with the implementation of the development agreement. By heads of agree nt dated March 29, 1990 Mr Mc Grath entered into a contract with subsidiary or associate company of Balfour Beatty in relation to land owned by him in Lytham St Anne's, under which Mr McGrath was to receive the sum of £125,000 from a subsidiary of Balfour Beat-

For some time prior to 1991 Lan-cashire Constabulary carried out an investigation into alleged corruption and dishonesty involving councillors and officials of Preston Borough Council. It was known as "Operation Angel". In the course of Operation Angel the police ob-tained a copy of the heads of agree-ment from Balfour Beatty, evidenc-

was instructed by the prosecution to advise them as to the legal meaning and effect of the heads of agree-ment, also as to the inter-relationship between the heads of agreement and a mortgage of the property in Lytham St Anne's in favour of

at Liverpool Crown Court on several counts alleging offences of decep-tion against the bank. Some of the charges were dis-

missed in September 1994 and the remainder were ordered to lie on the file in December 1994. Mr Stephen's statement, together with the report on which it was based and a copy of the heads of

agreement, were disclosed to Mr McGrath as unused material in the course of the criminal proceedings against him A copy of Mr Stephen's state-ment was also made available to the chief executive of the council, then a Mr Driver. On February 13,

1996 the council issued the present proceedings against Mr McGrath.
Mr Suppersione sought primarily to strike out the plaintiff's claim
on the ground that the Stephen statement and the heads of agree-ment, upon which it relied, were unused material and therefore sub-ject to the implied undertaking enunciated in Taylor v Serious

evidence to sustain the plaintiff's

Thus the court had to consider, for the first time, whether the im-plied undertaking recognised by the House of Lords in Taylor was reciprocal, that is, whether the prosecution as well as the defendant was bound by it.

administration of justice requires the application of an analogous principle to documents disclosed

il proceedings is designed to timit the invasion of privacy and confidentiality caused by compulsory disclosure of documents in litigation. It is generated by the circumstances in which the documents have been disclosed irrespective of their contents?" The implied undertaking in civil

proceedings was not a reciprocal obligation. The donor of the documents was in no way thereafter inhibited in his own use of the docu-ments by the fact that he has disclosed them to the other party to the action, even though the other party who obtained the documents only through compulsory disclo-sure was thereafter so inhibited.

bly to the argument that it was the moment of disclosure which, at least in relation to unused material, triggered the existence of the implied undertaking by the defendant, and thus also the proposed re-ciprocal implied undertaking by the prosecution.

But it was difficult to see why that moment of disclosure to the defendant would have any relevance to such an obligation of the prosecution, quite apart from its sta contrast with the absence of such reciprocal obligation in civil p

where the prosecution had to pa on documents to the defendant way of unused material. Any of tinued control of those docume would otherwise become impos Whether there was a need for

victim for that victim to consi whether it wished to use the doc ment in civil proceedings.

The implied undertaking

of agreement by the prosecution without any indication of revervition of confidentiality.

The council itself had given t

indertaking, nor had the prosection authority given any such ul dertaking of which Preston Could have had or could have

The defendant's applicant failed. The plaintiff was free to a fer in its pleadings to the heads; agreement knowledge of which; agreement knowledge of which derived from the Stephen stat

eign lawyer's home jurisdiction contended that the defendant firm. then the foreign lawyer was not the which he had retained to act for solicitor's agent but an independhim. had in breach of contract, negent expert. Consequently, the soliciligently and/or in breach of trust tor was not responsible for any loss-

Where a solicitor instructed a foreign lawyer on behalf of a client to perform conveyancing in the fores occasioned by negligence on the part of the foreign lawyer. Judge Behrens, QC, sitting as an additional judge in the Chancery Division, so held, dismissing the claim of the plaintiff, Wilfred Cordon Gregory, for damages for negligence against the defendant firm

solicitors. Shepherds, arising out of the plaintiff's purchase of a property known as Apartment A200. Mar v Sol. Los Christianos. they had instructed. Jaime Cabot

LEGAL NOTICES

NO. 45 OF 1998
IN THE LENCESTER COUNTY
COURT
R & A BOOTON the CARPETRANK
WAMEHOUSE (OF LOGIDATION)
I, Melryn Julian Center, of Center
Backer Winer, Hill Broom, Sighgate HEU, London N19 50U, HEESST GIVE NOTICE that I have been
duly appointed Liquidator of the
above-manded partnership.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

Gregory: Mr Richard Walford for

HIS LORDSHIP said that the full, together with substantial othvevance, demonstrating title, exe-

were limited to liaising between Mr Gregory and a Spanish lawyer

er sums in respect of costs, service failed to obtain an escrituraescritunz. the Spanish equivalent of a concuted by the vendor, and failing to carry out proper searches so as to discover the existence of the charge

No liability for foreign lawyer's tort

ment as security from some of its li-

rchase price of some £61,000 in

plainriff, who had already naid the

the vendor had put on the apart-In fact Shepherds' instructions

Ivars. Mr Gregory had been told

that it had been necessary to in-

plete the transaction on Mr Gregory's behalf

ING TO BE HELD UNDER SECTION
48(2) INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
TREADMASTER LIMITED REGISTRED RUBBERS 3040094
A meeting of Unsecured Creditm

CO6 1DO Coefficies whose claims are wholly sentired are not entitled to actual or be represented as the assecting. A creditor will only be smittled to note in the creditors meeting if:

a) he has given to the Receivers, not later than 12 o'telect moon on the business day before the day fixed for the meeting details in writing of the debr that he chains to be due to hiss from the company, and the chain has been duly admirted tunder the provisions of the linsolvency Rules, and
b) there has been bedged with the

struct a Spanish lawyer to look afier the Spanish legal work. That included the grant of a power of attorney in favour of the Spanish lawyer enabling him to com-

The court did not accept that an English solicitor without Spanish qualifications would undertake responsibility for Spanish conveyancing. The detendants instructions did not have the effect of making Mr Ivars a subcontractor, making

Shepherds responsible for his de-His Lordship rejected Miss Hol-

land's submission that Shepherds were liable for the alleged negligence of Mr Ivars in the conveyancing in the same way as a country so-licitor would be liable for the negligent acts of his London agent.

There was no document appoint-

ing Mr Ivars as Shepherds' agent. Mr Ivars was instructed as a Spanish lawyer to perform the duties of

suffered by Mr Gregory as a result of any default on the part of Mr Solicitors: Pickering & Butters. Stafford; Wansbroughs Willey Hargrave. Birmingham. 0171-782 7344

WOODSIDE HEALTH CARE

NOTICE to measure with Section 175 or conductor with Section 175 or concompanies Art 1985 that:

Sy Written Resolution of the Meanber of the Company dated Idea
February 1999 personant to Section 381A of the Companies Act
1985 a Special Resolution (the
Resolution) was day passed apneowing a redemption out of the
neowing a redemption out of the

LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES To piace notices in these sections please: Telephone 0171 680 6878 Fax 0171 762 7930 Or Emzal in Islandres@newskit.co.uk subject to comfemation and should be received by 2.30pm teo days prior to insertion.

THE READER'S DECEST
ASSOCIATION LIMITED
(THE COMPANY)
PICCE IS HEREST CEVEN In acritines with Section 175 of the WOODSIDE HEALTH CARE
LIMITED
NOTICE IS RECEST (SIVEN pursuant to Section 48(2) of the Impulwater Act 1986, that a meeting of
the unsecused creditors of the
shows assured company will be held
in The Gozinger Scotte at The
County Thistic Storal, Newlile
Street, Newtherlis-upon-Tyms,
BESP 1AR at 12.00 pm on 26 Febratery 1999 for the purposes of
having laid before it a copy of the
separt prepared by the administra-

The plaintiff's claim was that by receiving that money and/or fail-

ing to disclose the receipt of that money to the council, Mr McGrath was in breach of his fiduciary du-

ing the provisions for Mr Mc-Grath to be paid £125,000. A solicitor called Mr Stephen

ne Midland Bank.
In 1994 Mr McGrath was tried

Fraud Office (1998) 3 WLR 1040),

there was insufficient alternative

The mischief for which the implied undertaking in criminal pro-ceedings was a solution was identified by Lord Hoffmann in Taylor (at pi046c-h):
The question in this appeal is whether the public interest in the

by the prosecution to the defence in criminal proceedings...
The implied undertaking in civ-

The reciprocity for which Mr Supperstone contended led inevita-

The Taylor undertaking are

wider undertaking would deper upon the facts of the particul It was uncertain how such need could arise where a docume not otherwise stamped with as confidence was supplied by il prosecuting authority to an allege

which Mr Supperstone contende namely some kind of undertakte by the prosecution, whether ar-ing reciprocally with the impli undertaking given by the defer ant or somehow anterior to it, to use information received for ar purpose other then the prese criminal proceedings without it leave of the court, was unienable The plaintiff was given it Stephen statement, with its reference to and summary of the head

been given notice so as to be hour

ment Solicitors: Davies Wallis Fry ter, Manchester; John Gibb & C

Bargains of the week: from a half-term visit to a chocolate factory to a Canary Island cruise and a trip to San Francisco



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والمراجع والمحاربة

selection of last-minute houdays and travel opportunites at home, on the Continert and farther afield, many at sargain prices

BRITISH ISLES

CHOCOLATE for half-term is the treat on offer from Lunn Poly, which has organised a day at Cadbury World. Birmirgham, and two nights' half-board from tomorrow at the city's Apollo Hotel. This Highlife Break costs £220 for two adults and two children. Deails from Holiday Shops.

■ 7HE LAKES in all their February bleakness and beauty can be combined with relaxing in a pool and sauna on a near Carlisle, available from Superbreak. Two nights' hal-board costs from £98 this month. Details: 01904 679999.

■ FINDING a room is always the biggest problem for 01962 733051.

punters wanting to attend the Cheltenham Festival in mid-March but Pontins has an answer if you enjoy a Hi-de-Hi atmosphere and don't mind an hour's drive to the course. Four nights at the Brean Sands Centre in Somerset from March 15 and three days' admission to the racecourse's Courage Enclosure costs from £109. Details: 0870-604 5606.

COUNTRY contages will be at bargain prices again from next week, with half-term over. A week in a contage with views of Dartmoor and sleeping four costs £141 from Farm and Contage Holidays. De-tails: 01237 479698.

■ JAZZ in Jersey can be enjoyed on a holiday with Modern Hotels. Five nights' halfboard from March 25, return catamaran crossings from Weymouth and entry to jazz sessions, featuring the Alex Weish Legacy Band and others, costs from £191. Details: 01534 59529

■ WILD geese, rugged scenery and the odd dram are the main attractions on an eightday tour of Islay and Jura with Naturetrek. It costs £795 with full board and starts from Glasgow on April 7. Details: EUROPE

SEEN the film? Now visit the setting. Fans of Shakespeare in Love can spend three nights with breakfast at the Giuliena e Romeo hotel in Verona for E339 including return flights from Gatwick with Crystal Premier Italy. Details: 0181-390 5554.

■ CYPRUS is warming up but, if it's still not hot enough for the beach, Olympic Odyssev includes free car hire in its package from Gatwick on February 28. The week's self-catering holiday in Limassol costs £196. Details: 0181-343 9090.

FARIS for three nights at a two-star hotel for £44 is on offer from The Hotel Directory until the end of the month but you must arrange your own travel. Another good deal is four nights B&B for £119 including return flights from Manchester. This Airtours trip from March 1 is available from Co-op Travelcare. Details: Hotel Directory, 0181-770

CLIFFS, speciacular and beautiful, also exist on the other side of the Channel, especially at Entretat, Normandy, and you can walk them - and

SYDNEY

up to 31/3/99

0123: Co-op, 0541 500388.

country lanes — on a short holi-day with Belle France, available from March 1. Three nights' accommodation with some meals, guides and a Channel crossing cost from £179. Details: 01797 223777.

■ BUDAPEST. split by the Danube and with magnificent architecture, provides a weekend break with a difference and is available from £250 for two nights in a three-star hotel and return flights from Heathrow from Leisure Direction. Details: 0181-324 3030.

■ CANARY Island cruises are selling out fast, according to Festival Cruises, but cabins are still available for the March 4 sailing from Savona. Italy, which also calls at ports in Madeira, Morocco and Spain. Prices start at £886 for the 11-night trip, return flights from Garwick and full board. Details: 0171-436 0827.

■ EASTER is the most exciting time to visit the Andalusian cities of Seville, Cordoba and Granada, and Explore Worldwide has a 15-day tour from March 29. Walking in the mountains and the Grazalema National Park also form part of the trip which costs £720, including flights and B&B. Details: 01252 700100.

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LONG HAUL

CRUISING the western Caribbean and the Gulf of Mexico costs from £799, including return flights to Miami with Seafarer. Sailings are available on February 26 and March 20 and the 11-night trips take in the Cayman Islands, Jamaica. Venezuela and Mexico Details: 01202 685500.

■ SIWA. an ancient oasis town, and a day on the beach are among the more unusual outings on a week's fully escorted tour of northern Egypt with The Imaginative Traveller. Fly from Heathrow on February 28, tour Cairo and Alexandria and pay £485. Details: 0181-742 8612.

■ MAURITIUS is never a cheap destination and the 12-night trip for £799 with Tradewinds is as good as you are likely to get. The price includes a return flight from Manchester on March 8 and B&B at a beach hotel. Flights from Heathrow available for an extra £99. Details: 0870-751

■ BEACH hotels in both Kenya and Sri Lanka are available for a formight with half-board at the discounted price of £599

with Tropical Places. The offer includes flights and applies to limited departures in early March. Details: 01342 825123.

■ EAST AFRICA is also available at a bargain price for independent travellers or those wanting to visit friends in the region from Bridge The World. Return flights from Heathrow to Nairobi are on offer for £280, including tax and with free connections from several UK airports, but you must come back by March 31. Details: 0171-911 0900.

■ CALIFORNIA Dreamin' can become reality with Funway Holidays, which is offering a week's car hire and return flights from Heathrow to San Francisco and Los Angeles from £319 until March 22. Details: 0181-466 0222

 All prices based on two travelling together and sharing a room unless otherwise stated.

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Titamins have become part of our lives. Every-body knows that tak-ing Vitamin C helps to prevent a cold, that a lack of it gives you scurvy, and that too much leaves you resembling an extra from a Tango advert. And with the growth of vitamin awareness has come a growth in vitamin research. Millions of pounds are now dedicated to finding the per-fect amount of Vitamin E to boost male fertility or Vitamin D to produce perfect skin. It has become something of med-

ical "pop chart", with vita-mins vying for the top spot. Vitamin E has made a strong comeback this year with the discovery of several innovative uses. For some couples who have difficulty in

marriage of two vitamins min solution. The wives of men who took 200mg of Vitamin E for a month were shown to have increased fertil-

ity. It is believed that the vitamin may help to protect sperms against cell damage. For those who suffer from heartburn or angina. Japa-

nese researchers also suggest Vitamin E. In a study of 104 people, those with the lowest levels of Vitamin E suffered more from chest pain. When their normal medication could not provide relief. 300mg of Vitamin E supplements were given and their symptoms improved. Al-

Supplements are being touted as the cure-all of the Nineties from angina to infertility. Amy Anderson assesses their merits

that it may be linked to the effect of Vitamin E on cholesterol-based plaques around the heart which cause painful con-

Vitamin E may also extend life expectancy, according to a large-scale study carried out last year by the National Institute on Ageing. After reviewing the results of a six-year study of more than 11.000 elderly people, researchers found that the use of Vitamin E suprates by 27 per cent, reduced the risk of death from heart disease by 41 per cent and cut cancer mortality by 22 per

Unfortunately. sources of Vitamin E are limited unless you have a craving for mackerel and wheatgerm. The recommended daily allowance (RDA) is 10mg, although this has recently been challenged by a Veris Restudy that concluded: "Vita-min E intakes much higher than the current RDA can contribute to or improve human

Vitamin C, one of the most consistently popular vitamins of modern times, has only made research news recently through its marriage with Vi-tamin E. The combination of these two vitamins has been shown to help in the battle against skin damage caused the Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology re-vealed that people taking Vitamin E alongside Vitamin C suffered less skin damage from ultraviolet rays than test subjects who took a placebo.

These two vitamins have recently been marketed in a new form with the advent of sprays, which apply concen-trated vitamin directly on to the skin. Vitamin C has been used for some time in lotions such as Celex-C. which claims

the effects of ageing. Vitamin E, which acts as an antioxidant, has been bottled by The Body Shop as a "Vitamin E face mist" spray. This apparently has a noticeably beneficial effect on the complexion within a short time.

Vitamin B is trailing just behind E and C, with recent research highlighting its apparent potential to improve the functioning of the brain.

Dr l.H. Rosenberg, writing in the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition, claims that Vitamin B may prevent some of the decline in cogni-tive function associated with

ageing, and even suggests that some losses of cognitive function may be reversible. Daily supplements of ten times the RDA of seven B-vitamins over a year apparently led to improvement the supplements of ten times the RDA of seven B-vitamins over a year apparently led to improvement the supplement of the supplement o tal vigour, including memory. attention span and reaction

Finally, it would appear that L.H. Leung, a surger from Hong Kong Central life. pital. may have finally cracked a problem that has frustrated medical science for

thousands of years - acns. Mr Leung, publishing his findings in Green Tree Nitri-tion News, states that acte is caused by a lack of pina-tothenic acid — a vitamin and that the condition can be cured by remedying this leficiency. However, the vericity of this bas yet to be proved.

E-mail exerciser keeps you trim and in touch

itness enthusiasts who are fed up with training home alone are going online to find company while they

The super-smooth Concept 11 rowing machine and the stylish wooden Water Rower can now be linked to the Internet so that you can stay fit and find friends at the

By joining an online health club such as Oxygen (£35 joining fee and then £7 a month), you will have access to other home exercisers worldwide on the Web.

Once you have found a training partner with a similar piece of equipment you can then challenge him or her to races at mutually convenient training times. This should also stop you shirking because if you miss a scheduled session, you may receive an e-mail from a training partner asking: "Why weren't you there?"

Exercising at home, whether online or not, is becoming increasingly trendy and also much more energetic. About 40 per cent of people who exercise now do some or all of it in their homes. The traditional reason for working out at home is to save on travel time to the gym and membership costs. While this remains a strong incentive for

Gym equipment for the home is becoming ever more sophisticated. Tania Alexander reports

some people, there is also a new vounger breed of more athletic home exercisers who want to supplement the exercise they do in the gym with training at home.

This new demand has resulted in more sophisticated equipment on the market for home use. "People are now looking for top quality equipment that is as good as the machines they use in the gym," says Iraj Farrokh, the owner of Ultimate Fitness, a fitness equipment shop in North London that specialises in the top end of the market. Treadmills are one of the most popular pieces of equipment and his customers are prepared to pay up to £4,000 for something at the top of the range. "Whatever your budget, always buy the best you can afford," says Mr Farrokh.

If possible, avoid mail order unless you are already familiar with that piece of equipment. Other things to consider are whether you have enough space to house it (many items such as treadmills now come in space-saving fold-

chine feels stable and smooth. If you do not buy a machine that is good enough quality, the chances are that you will not enjoy using it and it will just be shoved in the cor-ner and used as a coat-stand.

away designs), and whether the ma-

The UK home fitness market is worth about £120 million. Reebok has recently jumped on the home-fitness bandwagon and is now putting its name to a wide range of

Its portable fitness range was launched last November and includes expensive but attractive dumbbell sets, a superb folding mat, skipping ropes and resistant tubing. Next month Reebok is launching its larger cardiovascular equipment, which will include bikes, treadmills and an elliptical

As we approach the millennium, manufacturers are working hard to make exercising at home more interesting. Tunturi, one of the leading brands of home exercise bikes this country, has recently in-

stalled its T-Generation of bikes with a computer that provides an interactive programme to act as your personal trainer. Once you have set your goals, such as losing weight or improving fitness, the computer will calculate how often you need to train, for how long, and at what intensity in order to see results.

. According to research by the equipment manufacturer Gold's Gym, women (43 per cent) are con-siderably more likely than men (30 per cent) to exercise at home. The big boom in women's fitness is strength-training. Research now shows that to lose weight properly in the long term, you have to use

The more muscle you have, the higher your metabolic rate. Although women may ultimately feel happier using resistance tubing to tone up, according to Mary-Anne Dalton from CSA Fitness, suppliers of Gold's Gym equipment, an increasing number of women are using dumbbells at home because it is such an effective way to tone up and add curves.

● Further information: Oxygen (0181-287 5794), Concept II (0115-945 5522), Water Rower (0181-749 9090), Tun-turi (0115-981 0205). Ultimate Fitness (0171-435 5046), CSA Fitness (01926 622405), Reebok Fitness (0171-816 5353).



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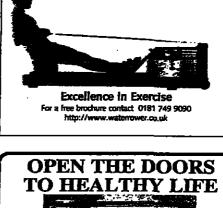
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RACING: OUTRIDERS ON COURSE TO HELP PREVENT A REPETITION OF PILE-UP AT SEDGEFIELD

Fakenham taking a lead on safety

By RICHARD EVANS RACING CORRESPONDENT

OUTRIDER is always on mounted duty at Fakenham racecourse in Norfolk and plays an essential role in trying to prevent the kind of tragic accident which claimed three horses lives at Sedgefield, it was disclosed yester-

The task is normally per-formed by lan Higgs or Bill Bishop, huntsman and whipper in respectively with the lo-cal West Norfolk Hunt, and has proved invaluable in helping cope with problem horses before and during races.

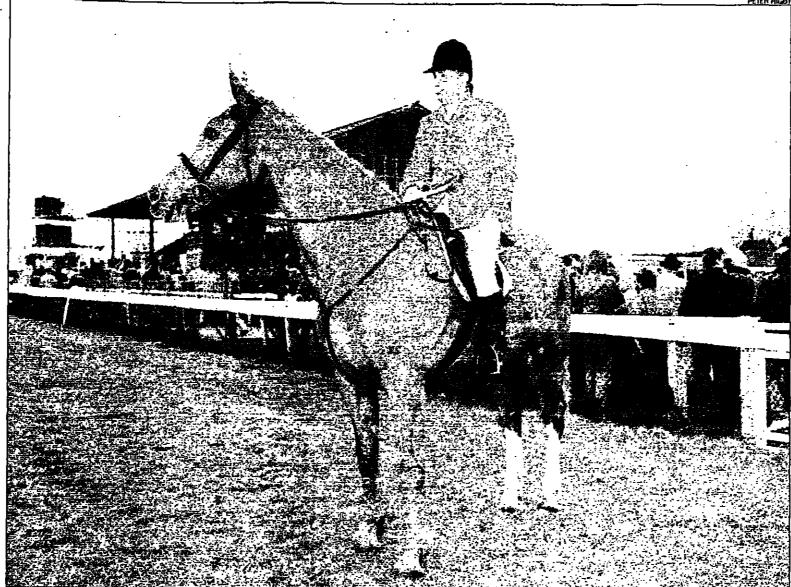
David Hunter, clerk of the course at Fakenham, said yesterday that he believed other courses could benefit from their experience. "The hunt staff play an essential role in trying to prevent an accident, bring awkward horses get-

RICHARD EVANS

ting down to the start and so many other things - including trying to catch loose horses. They also reinforce the important link between hunting and National Hunt racing."

Outriders are a common sight on racetracks in the United States, where they invariay accompany runners and inders to the start and after the race is over - but they are rare in Britain.

Cheltenham, the headquarters of National Hunt racing, also uses the services of local huntsmen for the occasional races run on its new crosscountry course. "Their main task is to guide loose horses away from hazards. We are not trying to be cowboys and them," Gillespie, managing director of Cheltenham, said yester-



Higgs, who has been employed as an outrider for 11 years, and his hunter keep a watchful eye on the runners at Fakenham

Fakenham, which stages a seven-race card tomorrow, is a sharp track with similar characteristics to Sedgefield and was identified by Lorcan Wyer, who was involved in Tuesday's pile-up, as the other course where an accident with

loose horses could happen. After the Sedgefield carnage, Hunter intends to review the way Fakenham copes with loose horses and incidents. "We may increase the number of hunt staff on duty from one to two. We will definitely look at the way we do things. It would be stupid not

SIS

to learn from other people's unfortunate happenings.

"I have spoken to the huntsman and he feels most loose horses, if they are not following the pack, tend to go back towards the paddock. So I will discuss with the Jockey Club's course inspector the possibility of opening up the gate to the paddock so that they can go in there."

stress that horses were unpredictable and all the safeguards in the world could not guarantee to eliminate problems arising from loose runners.

Meanwhile, a Jockey Club inquiry began yesterday into the Sedgefield deaths. A report from the Sedgefield stewards has already reached Tony Goodhew, the Jockey Club's director of racecourse services. which tried to identify the factors contributing to the accident. They included an attempt to slow down one of the

loose horses, which backfired. In addition, the hurdles had been removed from the course in preparation for the bumper race, which allowed the loose horses an obstacle-free run back up the track.

"Our inquiry will seek to establish how this freak and horrific accident came about and whether any further measures can be taken to reduce the risk posed by loose horses in a race," John Maxse, the Jockey Club spokesman, said.

"While we don't know the exact circumstances which led the three horses to turn away from the exit gates at Sedgefield, Ron Barry, the course inspector, will visit the track prior to its next meeting to try to identify ways of making exit gates more accessible to loose

Cyfor Malta counted out

SIS

"One of the things we have tried to do when looking at this problem in the past is to make exit areas more obvious to loose horses and create a lay-by effect - an area where they can go."

Loose horses tend to have a homing instinct, which takes them back to the racecourse paddock or stabling area. Maxse said that while the object was to ensure facilities at all courses were as safe as possible "sometimes freak accidents do occur and no amount of legilsation or preperation can prevent them".

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2 1116 JAVA STRINE 18 (B.C.F.G.) A Reid 8-9 1. . . . R Hardin 5
9 0-94 AEJAR 20 (D) MAY 5 Larymans 8-9 11 . . . C Teague (3) 8
4 00-3 DELLIJA 16 (F) J Hills 5-8-10 Fowle (7) 4
5 000- AS-8 187 J (CD.F.) J Bridges 6-8-7 R Bristand (7) 4
5 MODESTY HALL M Kettle 4-8-5 . . . T Sprake 2 11-18 Opera Buff, 7-4 Jana Shrine, 9-2 Deflue, 20-1 Ajdan, Modesty Hall, 33-1 As-ts.

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3.00 (2m st chi 1, Riparius (J. Osborne, 14-1): 2, Montroe (4-1): 3, Harding (10-1): Samon Breeze (4th) 4-5 (av 11 ran, 2, 2, 10 P. Webber Tote (20, 30; 13,30, £2,10, £2,60 DF: £25 10 CSF: £68 22.

3.30 (2m 41 110yd hole) 1, Surprise Gunner (T J. Murphy, 20-1), 2, Negra Thyne (16-1), 3, Royal Arctic (14-1), 4, Surprise (6-1) Sophe May 4-1 fav. 16 ran, NR, Yei-Allaraj, 6, 101, Krs. Marnia Jones, Tole: £2200, £4.10, £3.50, £3.40, £2.10 DF, £1.080.10 CSF £286.97 Thosas (4.196.53)

4.00 (2m 11 110yd fidiel 1, Hot 'N Secoy iR Betamy, 9-11, 2, Shepherds Rest (6-1); 3, Takeamemo (3-1), Eden Heights (4th)

3.35 DAVID COPPERFIELD FILLIES HANDICAP (£2,855: 1m 2f) (7)

5-2 Stanghal LV, 11-4 Wild Helsle, 3-1 Oxione, 5-1 Wings Awarded, 11-2 Roset Jaques, 50-1 Berd Ol Prey, Chayaner's Arena.

4.10 COME AND PLAY A ROUND AT LINGFIELD HANDICAP (£2,646: 5f) (9)

1 0036 A.L.AZ 17 (D.S) Miss 8 Kelenay 9-10-0 ... P Fredericks (S) 3 2 2211 SOTONIAN 7 (CD) P Felgate 6-9-12 (Sea) ... A Micholis (S) 5 3 313 SOURE CORRIE 7 (8.00.01.6.18) D Chapman 7-9-10 A Coltana 2 4 2132 HALT TORE 7 (8.00.01.6.18) R Flower 7-9-8 ... J Weever 9 5 0501 NETY NORMAN 6 (D.G.S) D Nacholis 5-9-6 (Ger) ... Floriton 7 6 3330 DAMOE TRIMES 14 (B.B.F.) F Novy 4-8-12 ... Martin Devger 8 7 0-04 KALAR 14 (B.CD.F.G) D Chapman 10-8-2 ... J Fanning 7 6 6625 DAMOENG JOKC 7 (CD) J Bridger 6-7-11 ... R Brisland (7 5 9 8/00 LADY D'ABO 17 (V) Mrs S Lamman 4-7-10 ... C Teagos (3) 4 3-1 Half Tone, 7-2 Solentan, 9-2 Squire Courte, 6-1 Metry Horman, 8-1 Kalas, 10-1 Al-ptz, Dande Times, Dancing Jeck, 25-1 Lady D'Abo

4.40 HICHOLAS MICKLEBY HANDICAP (3-Y-0: £3,572: 7f) (5)

5-2 Bartrotomen, 11-4 Polly Mills, 3-1 Indian Swinger, 7-2 Diamond Gester, 12-1 Shady Desil

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TAUNTON

CONNECTIONS of Cyfor Malta are looking

to the future after the news that the six-year-old

will miss the remainder of the season with a

leg injury.

The Martin Pipe-trained gelding was a 10-1 chance in William Hill's list for the Tote Chel-

tenham Gold Cup next month after his victory

in the grade two Pillar Property Chase at Prest-

bury last month. But Cyfor Malta, winner of

the Cathcart Chase at Cheltenham and the

John Hughes Trophy at Aintree last year, has

some heat in a front leg after his Pillar Chase

With Cyfor Malta sidelined, Hills yesterday reported interest in Dorans Pride for the Chel-

THUNDERER 2.10 llahabad, 2.40 Breteche, 3.15 Campeche Bay. 3.45 Siberian Mystic. 4.20 Sounds Fyne. 4,50 Isis Dawn. 5.20 Auetaler.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT (SOFT IN PLACES)

2.10 BLACKDOWN MAIDEN HURDLE (Div i: £2,473: 2m 1f) (14 runners)

success and will be rested.

7-4 Daratad 11-4 Fores Tail, 4-1 C Est Mai Lauret 8-1 Brandon Court, Jacob 12-1 Cage Aur Folles, 14-1 Dacod, 53-1 offers

2.40 PORLOCK SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,565: 2m 1f) (15)

3-1 Biggertie, 4-1 Specifying, 5-1 Eugan, 7-1 The Swam, Bion Sas, 16-1 colors

3.15 HENLADE NOVICES CHASE (£4.572. 3m) (14)

1 -345 ALBERMARIE 21 (F.G.S) H Cary 8-11-11 R Dumondy 102
2 1211 ATAMSTIC 15 (D.G.S) P Hobes 7-11-11 R Widger (5) [377]
3 0081 HIGHTOWN CAVALER 28 (D.S) R Hooge 8-11-11 G Bradley
4 00-1 RIDINA MISS 63 (S) H Pige 1-11-6 A P Microy 5
4 100 BROWNOSHY 16 (S) Mis J Pige 1-11-6 A P Microy 7
5 1-70 COULST BY PHAR 28 Mg - 11-14 N Widgerson 7
7 P-FO COULST BY PHAR 28 Mg - 11-14 N Widgerson 9
7 P-FO COULST BY PHAR 28 Mg - 11-14 N Widgerson 9
8 - PS4 ESAL PYSROON 28 N Texton-Lowes 6-11 4 C Unwellyn 7
8 - PS4 ESAL PYSROON 28 N Texton-Lowes 6-11 4 C Unwellyn 7
9 U30P LYDERROOK 19 M Haldineam 10-11-4 S Wymre 1
10 21-6 SANTY JOSEPH 288 (D.S) 5 years 9-11-4 Miss S Young 102
11 ZO-4 SINIUN/GIN 79 P Hothors 7-11-4 J Miss S Young 102
12 4354 DUMRICKS COUNTRY 22 C FERRY 9-10-13 P Powel 35
13 6-38 MTZ THISTIE 72 F ARIZE 6-10-13 Mischael Bransan 1
14 1-P PPGISIN 48 (S) Mg 5 M Bennett 9-16-13 Mischael Bransan 1 5.7 Alayesic 4.1 Inden Mics, 5.1 Environity 6.1 High coar Cavally 7-1 Castplets Bay 10-1 Albertrails Cartanogue, 20-1 other:

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: Ness V Wilhams, 4 withers from 11 numers, 36,4°C; 7 Green-eay, 4 front 16, 26,7°C. J Neville 5 from 20, 25,0°C. 6 fact corn, 5 from 70; 20,7°C. P Holds, 23 from 102, 70,5°C. JOCKEYS: N Whitemson 12 wanners born 47 lides, CS.5% R Widge, 4 born 17, 23 5%, J Mayee, 3 born 14, 21 4%, S Wynne, 4 born 19, 21, 1%, 6 Husband, 3 from 16, 18 5%

put him away for the season."

remains a 16-1 chance.

3.45 FEBRUARY HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,775 2m 3l 110yd) (9)

tenham showpiece and has cut the Irish chal-

lenger to 8-1 (from 9-1). with another Pipe hope-

ful. Hanakham, attracting each-way interest.

His price has been reduced to 25-1 (from 33-1).

Unsinkable Boxer, also trained by Pipe.

David Johnson, the champion National

Hunt owner, in whose colours Cyfor Malta

runs, said: "If the Gold Cup had been two

months or more away he would probably have

been OK. However, the vets told us that it

would have been only a 50-50 chance if we had

kicked on and, as he is only six and his future is ahead of him. I decided it would be fairest to

3 11cpy: Fuel 4-1 rees Dances, Arra Sort B. 7-1 Signings Mystic Beety Nova 18-1 Corpor Cod 16-1 Blade Of Fortune 25-1 others

4.20 CHEDDAR HANDICAP CHASE (SHOWCASE RACE AND TOTE TRIFECTA RACE) (£3,875: 3m) (16)

9.2 Protesting S.F. Handwar routh Patties Routies 8.1 South's Fyne Elegant Des Cocces 10-1 Handwise, Kommanger, 12.1 others

4.50 CRANMORE MARES ONLY HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,823; 3m 110/d) (16)

PERFAULT CALLED STORY OF THE PROPRIES OF T

5-1 Porcentaria 11-2 Country Store, 7-1 Porybolie 8-1 Equat's Dating Crary Cru-serie, 10-1 los Dash Plad Mad, Swartes Gold, Bonty, 12-1 others

5.20 BLACKDOWN MAIDEN RURDLE (Drv II, \$2,473, 2m 1f) (14)

AUETALER 169F M Ptp. 5-11-5 P McCoy CONORA 147F 0 O Neet C-11 5 V Statesy C FARCEUR DU MESMIL 51 (3F) K Morgas 6-11-5 A S Smith 59 GROOM'S GORDON 244F Mcs V Williams 5-11-5 Milliamson C Milliamson C Milliamson C Milliams OHERANGSBY 308 & Bucklet 5-11-5 B Power R66 ARGAL 266 & Holfingswint 6-11-5 B Power S LITTLE HEART 31 Mac 2 Williams 5-11-5 R Derivedoly TIES LISCOW MIST 36 P Palling 8-11-5 B Palling 8-11-5 B Bradley B PAIT 8 MISTIC QUEST 12°F & McAudile 5-11-5 B Bradley PAITY ROMANDE 155°F & Frost 5-11-5 B Palling 8-11-5 B PAITY ROMANDE 155°F & Frost 5-11-5 B PROMED 150°F & PAITY ROMANDE 155°F & Frost 5-11-5 B PROMED 2 PRINCE DURINGE 10 J Neville 8-10-9 MF R Pointsat (5) 0 988° BERBELS 25°F (100) 98-00-4 R Farrant SPANISH E/ES 141°F J Spearing 4-10-4 G Tormey

5-2 Groom; Gordon, 7-2 Austaler, 11-2 Faccau, Du Messal, 6-1 Parly Romance, 7-1 Prince Dustaler, 8-1 Little Heart, 20-1 Moscow, Mag., 25-1, odess

Carl Evans: 3.55 Marching Marquis

GOING, GOOD (GOOD TO SOFT IN PLACES) TOTE JACKPOT MEETING SIS

SANDOWN PARK

THUNDERER

1.50 Nordansk

2.20 Looks Like Trouble

Timekeeper's top rating: 2.50 SALAMAH.

7.50 FREE CHIPS ALL DAY CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLE (\$2,918: 2m 110yd) (12 runners)

Long handicae Hispangue 9:10 Mesius Bay 9-7:1 Co Rei Joves 9-. BETTING, 4-1 Docks Brawner, 9 tr Bullimon, 5-1 Near Foot Handlersh A. 1 Martino (7-1 Company Footier) 4-1 Com 1998 MORDANCE PRINCE 7-11-11 5 Melly (NG-70) Med. 7 Millione 5 Ion

Medi Fear 171 eth el 7 to Kimo's Creat an Itanaicea hersis of Windscarle
Com 1004, good, Mazaleo 191 to Kimo's an Itanaicea hersis of Windscarle
Com 11004, good to Lethy Nordanesk 93 do el 10 to Sharm in Itanaicea hersis on notice hersis of 600, compass 90 do el 10 to Sharm in Itanaicea hersis of 100, do 100, do 200, compass 90 do el 10 to Hersis of Hers NORDANSK has the analysable assistance of Scamus Burack in an open race

2.20 REG HOPKINS & TONY KING NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (£3,987 3m 110yd) (8 runners)

Long handstap. Claymore Lan 9 6

BETTRIG 4-1 core Line Traubic 5-1 Steparatebay rancatals. Howing hock 11-2-April Trac Liest Process 5-3 Motory Museum, 14-1 Claymon, Line 1998: SWANG QUARTET 8-70-5 C Licentify (2-1) % Tarston-Daves 5-129

Stepandeboy and Tompoto 15 in 9 turne monte that if About 15 in 9 turne monte that if About 15 in good to soly Looks Like Transfer but Lead Vocabet 75 turne of 15 in 65 to known of 15 in North and the 15 in the 15 in

2.50 TELEGRAPH HILL NOVICES HURDLE (£2,983: 2m 110yd) (8 runners)

131 SALAMAH 16 (D.S.) (Lioy Newton) C Eyerton 5-11-10 . J Osborne [116] . Osbo BETTING 11-18 Salaman 3-1 Feel Gusto 4-1 Brown Lad, Achtey Park, 23-1 Sophamine, 66-1 Sleight Of Hand Lie Mich Bure, Santa Court

SALAMAH is taken to community progress at the experise of Brown Lad

3.25 LONDESBOROUGH HANDICAP CHASE (£7,966; 2m) (4 runners) 40: 51-226 BIS MATT 26 (CDF.G.S) (Bonkett 3 Brown; N Henderson 11-12 0 M A Fitzgerald 138 402 211212 DMRS 54 (BF.CD.F.G.S) (Changett Carry Nichols) P Nichols, 7-11-4. T J Marphy 137 403 -12113 TOM BRODE 19 (D.F.G.S) (Mrs. M. Bod) J Hossard Jetroson 9-10-11. A Maguste 132 404 -13223 DANTES CAVALLER 26 (CD.F.G.S) (Brows Late W Porch D Candoble 9-10-2 B Fenton 1445

BETTING 2-1 Dines, 5-2 Tom Brodic 3-1 Danies Cavalidi, 7-2 Big Matt. 1998; EDREDON BLEU 6-11-8 A P McCov (11-8 Lav) Mrst H knight 4 Lin

Clines 41 2nd of 5 to Eagles Rest in novité chase of kempton (2m. heavy)
prevocaly best Dawn Leades 11-s in 5-runne (conce chase grade: 2 at Candown (3m. pood). Tom Brodie: 188 3rd of 7 to Mullingar in handicap chase at
Domascia. Com 110yd, good to soft), prevously best Di Bones 22-s in 4-fund handicap chase at Wetherby;
(2m. pood to soft), Dartes Cavaller 84-1 3rd of 7 to Storm Darrage in handicap chase at Kempton (2m. 4t.
110yd, soft) with Big Matt. (2lb better oil) a dictance 60h.

DINES narrowly gets the vote in a race more competitive than the small turnout suggests

3.55 WILFRED JOHNSTONE HUNTERS CHASE

(Amateurs: £2,108: 2m 4l 110yd) (16 runners)

BETTING: 3-1 Around the Horn 5-1 True Steel, 7-1 Manching Marquis, Strong Medicine, 8-1 Avivtai Errori Secare, 10-1 Spuffington, 12-1 Printpan Bridge, 14-1 others

1998: LUCKY DOLLAR 10-12-4 Mass P Robson (4.5 tax) S Sholey-Bassan 5 ran. Avoids best Salhon Fisting 81 in 4-turnic house chart of Shirker's in more chart of Shirker's in Marchaloon in these chart of Hardington Sm. good). Mild 0 the Brags best Austre Alace 3 in 12-turner hunter thanker of Marchaloon in these chart of Hardington Sm. good). Mild 0 the Brags best Austre Alace 3 in 12-turner hunter that at Wetterbe 12m 41 100-d good to firm! Protition Bridge 6 is a Chargoputz 3 in 4 turner nonce chart at Sandown (2m 41 100-d), about to firm! Protition Bridge 6 is a Chargoputz 3 in 4 turner nonce chart at Sandown (2m 41 100-d), about to firm? True Shall best firm 0 to 17 to pestage in nonce funded grade 1 a Chetterianom (2m 51 310-d) opening the Internation of the Disse 4 in of 13 to Deadle Callect in hunter chart at Hardington 12m 41 1100-d good to soft. Southington 11.1 3 dt 41 to Martiner Real in amaleu chase at Sandown (3m 1100-d, good). Strong Medicine at Genaric Sin of 6 to Story Find in hundring chart at Wordset Cim 41 1100-d, good to have. The Milmaster pulled up in pour elamotrop chart at Market Resen (3m 11, good to larm).

TRUE STEEL a course and distance without to a tentaine choice in an open cordex

4.30 LEATHERHEAD NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,061: 2m 6f) (18 runners)

Long handicap (uscombe 9.12

(£3,061: 2m bi) (18 fluinters)

601 :5-11P TEMPSSTUDUS LADY 47 (6,5) fluic E Robert, 16 Henderson 8-11-10 M A Ritrogradd

603 :5-6-25 BURNI QUIT 54 (ft) (14 fancy Potines/Inpl J Critical 7-11-7 ... L Appell 93

603 -P6322 NEWBY END 48 (65) (1 Browning) M Modigner/5-11-6 ... J R Navinagh 93

604 -5-1435 PALAELON 21 (V.6) (Marc & Canne) (8 Relating 5-11-6 ... J Report 10-1

605 0:S55-5 WHNSTLING RIFFLS 86 (14 jurnar) Patiesration IN Terrain Extrem 7-10-12 ... Lenis 42

606 3-S551 NORLANDOC 16 (5) (ft) In Horze Father thing IP Hotols 7-10-12 ... A Maguare 106

607 4-6460 COMMANNICHE HERO 65 (S) IP Holdes JR Critical 6-16-12 ... A Maguare 106

608 9-5251 NORLANDOC 16 (5) (ft) In Horze Father thing IP Hotols 7-10-13 ... A Maguare 106

609 5-2842 LUCKY MASTER 38 (Not A Not) 1 (broon 7-10-10 ... J Supple 96

610 21-35 SEPCTION 20 (S) IT Cleave; JR Roser (10-9 ... J Supple 96

611 21-35 SEPCTION 20 (S) IT Cleave; JR Roser (10-9 ... J Supple 96

612 30-53 SEPCTION 6 (B) BF (West Lockings Partnership) Met H Annigm 6 10-7 J Cleatory Modified 10-10 ... J Supple 96

613 0-5304 DOMPS (DURSE 38 (Growell) N Inviton Cleases 6-10-6 ... J Goldstein (3) 92

614 (UPP-2 COLUME) HOLOK 1-4 Miles B Lockings Partnership Met H Annigm 6 10-7 J Cleatory 87

615 00-040 GUARLI OH HOMOLIN 69 (Mas S Endorship Met H Annigm 6 10-7 J A Modified 7-10-10 ... J Supple 96

616 30-0506 BROSANIER 12 (6) (H Hotolines) Met 19 (Promain 7-10-3 ... J A Modified 17-10-10 ... J A Modified 17-10 ... J A Modified 17-10

BETTING, 7-1 Horlandic, 8-1 Tempestuous Lao, Luchy Massey, Geyton Colonel Hook, 10-1 Burn Cut, Eranak, 1998 FINNAHALLA 6-10-3 B Ferton (7-7) G Balang 13 Ian

Temposturus. Lady bulled up in novice hards at Newbury (3m 110yd soll) previously bear Primare star 10t in 9 unite: mars, nonce hards as hards at Huntroglon (2m 51 110yd, 3m)) Newby End 38 Jin di 8 to 10t in 9 unite: mars, nonce hards at hards at Huntroglon (2m 51 110yd, 3m)) Newby End 38 Jin di 8 to 10t to Castle Overt in hardscap hards at Wincaster (2m 4) Newby End 38 Jin di 8 to 19 hard Less these in where the node at Primpion Cm 41 heavy, with Girlyton (11to bears off) a decreace sin Palacimen 3 it 5th of 12 to Secre The Wincaster (2m 4), solly Wincaster (3m 4), solly Wincaster (3m 4), solly Wincaster (3m 4), solly Wincaster (3m 50 y 10 3 do 49 to Nargaman in novice hards at Rempton (3m 51 solly 10 to 10 to

GREYCOAT BOY has less to do than against language at Kengton last time

COURSE SPECIALISTS TRAINERS Wins Rors J Trice Rolph J Osborie J Mr Carlly P Micholic P Mediac D Nicholishin 31 6 19 6 19 5 17 9 17 3 15 0 13 8 13 0 11 4 J Fang Afas H Anight R Rose N Heruterson N Twiston-Danes Mrs J Pluman A Magure O O'Sulisan I J Murphy R Thornum J Cullety M Fitzgerzid

Denman Williamson is confident of being fit to ride Teeton Mill at Ascot on Saturday despite complaining of discomfort Mill at Ascor on Saturday despite complaining of discomfort after making a winning return at Folkestone yesterday. Williamson's neck injury, which forced him to miss the winning ride on Decoupage in last Saturday's Tote Gold Trophy. was clearly making the rider uncomfortable when he weighed in after taking the Newchurch Maiden Hurdle on the Kim Baileytrained Conchobor.



RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S THREE MEETINGS 11-4 p-lay 7 ran 221, 101 J Tuck. Tole 98 30: £1 70, £2.30 DF. £17.10 CSF £65.08. 4.30 (3m 2f chi 1, Charmer's Well (Mr N Ferlay, 5-1); 2, Charden (25-1); 3, Sneer Abulty (10-1) Tius Andronaus 5-2 lav 6 ran 7, 8 Gary Brown Tote 55-80, 52 10, 56-60, DF 527 30 CSF, 552.89 5.00 (2m 1/ 110) of fath 1, Dromotoman (J. Osborne, 5-4 lav), 2, Brockton Glen (9-1); 3, Styr (11-1) 9 ran NRI, Notan 91, 11. P Webber, 10st 22 10; £1 10, £2.80, £3.60 DF; £7.50 CSF, £19.46

2.50 (2m 6f 110yd hole) 1, Cancheber (N Witemson, 5-11, 2, The Hill Has Moved (3-1 f-lev), 3, Johnstons An (3-1 f-lev), 16 ran, 16, 4 k Basley Tote, 55-90, 52 10, 21 40, 21.50 DF, £10.50 CSF, £17.77 Placepot: £1,669.80. Quadpot: 2317.30.

Musselburgh Going: good to lirm - from in places 1.50 (2m hole) 1. Albrighton (A Magure. 4-6 tay), 2. Mester Tem (9-2), 3. Smiel (300-3), 14 san. 34, 51 F Marphy Tole. 51.60, \$1.10, £2.30, £15.40 DF £2.30. CSF, £3.31.

2.20 (2m ch) 1, Stonesby (J Callaghan, 7-1); 2, Zehod (8-2), 3, Chamwood Jack (13-2), Rossel (4hi) 15-8 lav, 8 ran NR, Up For Ranscome 174, 174, G Moore Tote St.80; 61 70, 61 10, 52-60, DF; 611.80 CSF 528 16 Tricast 6138 58

2.50 (2m hdle) 1. Dorans Way (N Hamily 7-2), 2. Coh Ah Cantone (20-1); 3. 8i O Magic (5-1) Bernard Seven (4th) 5-2 by 11 ran. 4l, 4l G Moore, Tote: 25 by 51 ft 10. 24 60, 62 30 DF £42.50 CSF £65.84 Th-casi: £318.22

3.20 (3m ch) 1, Gale Force (B Storey, 11.4 lav) 2, Salem Beach (7-2), 3, Danlys Gossel 4-1) 8 ran 6, 4 P Beaumont, Tote \$2.80, \$1.70, \$1.30, \$1.50, \$DF, \$2.30, \$C\$ \$11.85, Impact \$33.33

3.50 (3m hdfe) 1. Chartle Banker (A Mogure, 11-4 lav), 2, Shardanto (3-1); 3, Golden Thunderbor (5-1) 10 ran 2, 24 K Barka Tota (330); 5200 (51-5), 51,70 DF, 66:00 CSF: (9-92) Tricast 634 27 4.20 (3m ch) 1. Coole Abbey (Mr M Brad-burne, 11-10 lav), 2. Joint Account (8-11, 3, Sabn Lover (4-1), 10 ran, 9t, 51 Mrs Clare

4.50 (2m fet) 1. Plenty Courage (8 Storey, 8-1), 2. Qualitar Sunwor (6-1), 3. Blue Moon (10-1) If fev 10 ran MR. Handsome Henry, Regal Island 1t 14 F Storey Tote 212.30, 12170, 2350, £1.20 DF £285.50 CSF £286.88 Ptacepot: £9.50.

Quadpot: £3.60. Wolverhampton Going: standard

2.10 (1m 1f 79yd) 1, Absolute Majority (J. P. Spencer 13-2) 2, My Little Man (33-17, 3, Port Meadow (3-1), Mooguero (3dt), 11-6 lav 10 rtm 8, "v. B. Curey Tone 18 30: 25-50, 64-20, 61-20, DF: \$46-80, CSF: 5188-66 £188 65 2.40 (Im 5/ 168yd) 1 Manillene (R Price, evens lav), 2, Albemare (14-1), 3, Prince Centing (100-30) 6 rain 5/, 1/4 Miss S Watern Tote £2 00: £1.20, £6 40, £1 60 OF £20 10 CSF £17.49.

3.10 (7) 1. Italien Symphony (C Cogan. 5-2 tavl. 2. Redoubtable (14-1) 3. Adalph Boy (8-1) 11 ran 34 11.4 P Evens. 108-63-60. C1.20. 63-70. 65-60 DF. 233.00. Th-lecta 1993-60 CSF 243-87 Incast (253.32 3.40 (51) 1. Trojan Girl (1 G McLaughin. 11-8 tav.; 2. Aa-Youknownothing (5-1), 3. Avondale Girl (7-1) 6 ran 19, 19 N Lympoten Tole: \$2.10, (1.10 5560 DF-£12.40 CSF £9.21

4.10 (8) 1, Loughanies (F Norion, 3-1), 2, Just For You Jane (5-4 tay); 3, Lenst Venture (7-1), 8 ran, 34, 7). D Nichols Tote (4-50, 51.10, 51.10, 52.20 OF 05-00 CSF 52, 52 4.48 (1m 4i) 1, Copper Shell (P Doo, 11-8 lay): 2, Nistars Star (11-4ir. 3, Opera Bull (7-1): 8 ran 1'4, sh hd. Mrs L. Jawell Tota E2 40, £1.40, £1.80, £1.60 DF: £3.50 CSF £5.32, Tricsel* £18.88

Jackpot: £5,691.20. Placepot: £48.70.

SNOOKER

Higgins retains ambition at home

BY PHIL YATES

JOHN HIGGINS, Stephen Hendry and Alan McManus. who have won 41 world-ranking tournaments between them, remained on course to provide a home-grown cham-pion at the Scottish Open in Aberdeen vesterday.

Higgins, who struggled to defeat Leigh Griffin 5-3 in the first round on Monday, showed a considerable improvement during a 5-0 whitewash of Stuart Petiman. Even so, the margin of victory was flattering, for Higgins stole the last two frames on the

Higgins. who now meets Dave Harold or Nigel Bond, rejected the suggestion that he might find it difficult to raise his game again after winning the Benson and Hedges Masters four days ago. "I have never won a professional title on home soil, so it's an ambition of mine." he said. "Wembley did take a lot out of me. but that doesn't mean I'm not up

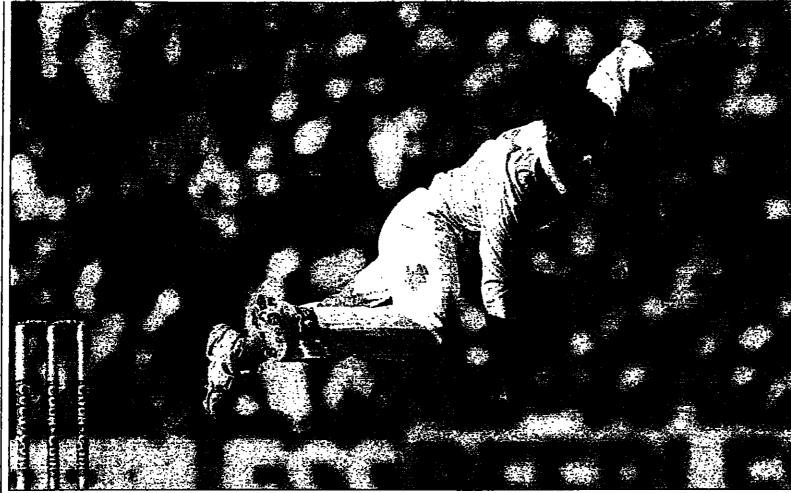
Hendry, playing Nick Pearce for the first time since they met as schoolboys on the BBC series Junior Pot Black in 1983, won 5-2, while Me-Manus pulled away from 3-3 to beat Willie Thorne 5-3.

Scottish representation in the last 16 was further swelled by wins for Graeme Dott-5-2 over Quinten Hann - and Chris Small, who ground out a 5-1 victory at the expense of Darren Clarke, the first-round conqueror of Steve Davis.

One Sassenach to excel was John Parrott. The evergreen Liverpudlian included breaks of 85 and 109 in a 5-2 win over Leo Fernandez.

Tony Drago, the world No 10. had runs of 74, 50, 51 and 80, but was beaten 5-1 by the methodical Fergal O'Brien. In trouble, with the cueball tucked under the bottom cushion early in the deciding frame, O'Brien fluked a red to launch a 110 clearance.

That was unjust on Tony, but I am not going to complain." O'Brien, also responsible for a 134 total clearance, said. He now meets Ken Doherty, his erstwhile practice partner, who defeated Marcus Campbell 5-1.



five): Pakistan, with nine sec-ond-innings wickets in hand, are 12 runs behind India

FOR the first time, Wasim Akram might have been able to convince himself yesterday afternoon that, as a huge billboard opposite its airport proclaims contentiously, Calcutta really is the City of Joy. After being outplayed by India for four sessions. Pakistan recovered tenaciously, sometimes spectacularly, to restore balance to a contest that has enthralled crowds approaching 100,000 on the first two days.

Pakistan were as impressive with the old ball as they had been wasteful with the new as India. from being 147 for two. just 38 runs in arrears, collapsed to 223 all out. The architect of this reversal of fortunes was Shoaib Akhtar, who justified his inclusion ahead of Waqar Younis with a hostile spell that would have satisfied

Waqar in his pomp. When Shoaib, 23, played against South Africa last winter, he was described as being quicker than Allan Donald, which means there may not be a faster bowler in the world. Eventually combining length and direction with late in-

Tendulkar falls to blistering pace

FROM RICHARD HOBSON IN CALCUTTA

Shoaib had bowled Laxman

in similar fashion on Tuesday.

but on the resumption yester-

swing, he removed Dravid and Tendulkar with successive balls in a brief spell that altered the game. He returned to york Prasad to finish with figures of four for 71, hitting the stumps on each occasion.

"I have seen Wagar as quick at his peak, but Shoaib's bouncer is much faster," Wasim said afterwards. "He bowls off a long run so he gets tired quickly which is why I use him in short bursts."

There are fewer better defensive batsmen than Dravid, whose Test average is more than 50. Yet, although he had been batting for more than two hours and was clearly seeing the ball well, he was helpless to block a delivery that Shoaib speared towards his toes. What came next was Whenever Tendulkar swag-

LINKS

gers to the crease, spectators day he had bowled too short, rise and clap in unison. They perhaps over-excited at the had barely settled again when Shoaib, high on adrenalin, sprinted in from 30 yards and pace in the pitch, and became frustrated by the dogged resistance of Kumble, the nightbeat India's champion for watchman. Ramesh, an uppace to such a degree that he right left-hander, completed a was still in mid-stroke when third-successive Test half-cenhis stumps were disturbed. tury with some graceful Tendulkar refused to look strokes square on the off side, back after his first golden duck but he played others away in Test cricket as murmurs of from his body that suggested disbelief replaced the stunned his imminent downfall. When 36, he guided Wasim to point, silence in the stands. It was as though a royal death had been only to see a no-ball signalled. announced. At the non-strik-er's end, Sadagopan Ramesh was as astonished as anybody.

Pakistan continued to donate extras generously and Wasim, who also struggled with his run-up in Madras and Delhi, overstepped far too

Ramesh had reached 79 after a stay of 210 minutes when Wasim won a leg-before decision. Azharuddin, who has scored five Test hundreds

here, and Ganguly then com-bined in a useful partnership either side of tea until Saqlain accounted for Ganguly with an off break that bounced vi-ciously. Wasim tempted the In-dia captain to drive carelessly to cover in the next over.

With the tail barely qualified to withstand a now roused attack, India fell two runs short of securing another batting point. Thus, both sides finished with five overall. Twelve more will go to the winners, but no more will be awarded if the game is drawn.

The spin being put on the scoring system by organisers of the Asian Test championship is that these bonus points have added a competitive edge. As though meetings between these fierce rivals could be anything but competitive!

If Pakistan withstand the opening overs from Srinath and Prasad today, they will be well-placed. Although they have already lost Wasti to a fine, one-handed catch by Mongia, the reprieve granted to Saeed, who was missed at slip by Azharuddin during a highly-charged final hour, played in fading light, may prove to be costly for India. who appear to be the weaker side under pressure.

SCOREBOARD FROM CALCUTTA

PAKISTAN: First Imings 185 (Moin Khan 70. J Srinath 5 for 46). Second Innings Seed Anwar not out......

BOWLING. Sringth 6.2-1-18-1; Prased 6-4-8-0. MADEA: First Innings

Extres (16 9, nb 32). ...

Total OF WICKETS: 1-26, 2-91, 3-147, 4-147, 5-165, 6-205, 7-205, 8-211, 9-212 BOWLING: Washin Alexan 24-5-65-3, 5hosh Alektar 19-2-1-71-4: Azhar Mahmood 18-5-40-1: Saqisin Mushtar, 13-3-31-1, Shahid Ahid 2-0-7-0 Umpres: S A Bucknor (West Indi D L Orchard (South Africa)

SWIMMING

O'Neill wipes away oldest world record

FROM CRAIG LORD IN MALMÖ, SWEDEN

ia, broke the oldest world swimming record here yesterday, at the eighth round of the World Cup. She shaved 0.28sec off the 200 metres butterfly shortcourse standard that had stood to Mary T. Meagher, of the United States, since January 2,

"I'm really shocked." a beaming O'Neill, 25, said, af-ter ending Meagher's 18-year run in 2min 5.37sec. The Olympic champion admitted that the record swim had not been planned and put her time down to the fast early pace set by her rival, Sophia Skou, from Denmark.

A computer-generated race between O'Neill and Meagher would be a strange beast; the American would have trailed the Australian by 1.55sec at halfway and 1.68sec going into the last two lengths, a reflection of Meagher's stamina and speed at the end of her races.

O'Neill, who met Meagher for the first time only two months ago after she had won

SUSAN O'NEILL, of Austral- a record six titles at the Commonwealth Games, can now look to complete her other main ambitions. She wants to break the long-course record - Meagher holds both the 100 and 200 metres butterfly records — and defend her Ol-ympic title in Sydney.

Her inspiring effort, which brought a five-minute standing ovation at the Aq-va-kul pool, rendered all other pre-formances almost irrelevant, though James Hickman's em-phatic victory for Great Britain in the 100 metres butterfly over Sabir Muhammad, of the United States, 52.29sec to 53.05sec, was a sight to behold.

Under normal circumstances, Hickman, at 5ft 10in, could hardly be described as diminutive, yet he was made to look it as Muhammad, the world's fastest black swimmer, looked down on Hickman as the two received their medals - the American was standing on a step several inches below the winner's spot.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL bndge. Third round: Barton Rovers v Bore-hern Wood.

RYMAN LEAGUE: Purma Cup: Second round: Basintamisted v Ayissbuy. Their round: Carbatton v Makon and Harsham; Whyeleale v Worthing. Vendanel Trophy: Bection! Jown v Legiston Town POOTEALL LEAGUE YOUTH ALLI-ANCE: Midland Conference: Woball v Strewsbuy (11 0). North West Confer-ence: Bury v Westhern (2.0) POOTENS LEAGUE: Part division: Stel-feld Wednesday v Manchester Cay (7 0). INNERVA SPARTAN SOUTH MED-LANDS LEAGUE: Premier division: Basi-ngside v Welvyn Garden, Waltham Abbsy v Hannow.

AVON INSURANCE CONFERNATION: First division: Crystal Palace v Swindon, Norwich w Mauel. CLUB MATCH: Kingstonian v Widzew

RUGBY LINION Weish League First division

OTHER SPORT

99 Zinzan gives England a net gain

However, few 11-year-olds one eye on the towering net, the other on a looming maths lesson — would imag ine that it is possible to play professionally. Joanne Zin-zan, the new England captain, is doing just that and, on Monday night in Man-chester, she leads her team out against South Africa.

It is a challenging match and one with a history. England, ranked No 4 in the world, unexpectedly defeated South Africa, ranked No 3, to claim the bronze medal at the Commonwealth Games last summer.

They didn't expect that," Zinzan said, "so there's lots at stake for both teams. We have something to live up to, because a lot of people doubted we could beat South Africa. Our squad was so deter-mined, I'd never felt anything so amazing."

Another surprise was soon to follow. Fiona Murtagh, the long-standing England captain, retired with her precious medal and the selectors chose to look no further than the 5ft 11in Middlesex defender. "I never thought in my life I'd be captain," Zinzan said, "but it's a very proud feeling." She led her side for the first time against Wales last month and, despite playing out of position, enjoyed the 55-26 winning start.
"Good job I was in front of

all the girls when we walked out," Zinzan said, "because I found it quite emotional and got a bit choked up. Playing wing defence, instead of my usual goal defence, was difficult at times because it means I'm playing down a different side of the court. But it's also a challenge, so

I'm sure I'll get there." Full-time commitment suggests that that will be sooner rather than later. Her worldclass performance plan grant has enabled her to relinquish her job at an Enfield leisure centre and concentrate on honing netball skills and toning muscles.

"It's a very physical game," she said. "The top countries are much closer in ability now, so it's always extremely competitive. When for a 50-50 ball, it's inevitable that someone will end up on the floor."

In addition to individually tailored training pro-grammes, England squad players meet regularly for training camps, where they practise against men. "A lot of our strength training is about learning to stay on our feet." Zinzan said. "Playing against men offers us a more physical test. I suppose it does have an image problem for some men, but these are all big guys and good play-



ers. It's already a popular sport for men in New Zealand and Australia and there are quite a few mixed teams now in England."

If there is a wry joke to be made, it will doubtless es-cape from the lips of Tracey Neville, sister of the Man-chester United and England defenders, Gary and Philip. "She's the clown of the pack," Zinzan said. "Her one-liners are very funny and everybody likes having her around."

Any unusual glamour comes courtesy of her surname. "My Dad passed away a few years ago, but he tried to trace the origin of the name," she said. "I don't know how true it is, but it's supposed to go back to an italian nobleman who was a horseman for Henry VIII. Anyway, when I get married. I'm going to keep the name because I love it so

he has been engaged for six years, but it is not a fear of losing her head that is keeping Zinzan from the altar. "It's just trying to fit it in around netball," she said. Maybe after the world championships are over in the autumn we'll get around

Peter Moxon, her fiance, is at least partly responsible for Zinzan's single-minded commitment. Both are qualified fitness trainers and he is her coach in the gym. "We used to have rows about it years swearing and he'd walk out, but now he's officially my weights trainer, I have to listen - if I don't like it, I just mumble under my breath."

Zinzan, 27, does at least openly talk about how long she hopes to play international netball. "Up to the world championships in 2003," she said. "The aim then is to have a gold medal, then I might do more coaching. It's always great to see the tiny tots learning the game at school — the future is very exciting."



Zinzan, takes a rest during a practice session at the England netball training ground in Kettering

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'I have never

seen a changing-room

with so many grown

men crying

of games in the Five Nations

in recent years. We have to

look at every game as a cham-

pionship in itself. The triple

crown is not beyond us. but

that's a long way down the

road. If we play to our full

potential, we can beat anv-

"The irony is that the first

five games I played for Ire-

land, we won all of them. But

there are guys who have played ten times and never

won. It is frustrating and, af-

ter a setback like France, it

might have been very difficult to get morale up. But the man-

agement — Warren Gailand and Donal Lenihan — have

been superb in that regard.

ince making his de-

won 23 caps and scored three

tries. When not proving him-self to be the best right-head

prop in the northern hemi-

but in 1995 against Ja-

pan in the World

Cup. Wallace, 27, has

There is a great team spirit."

one," he said.

James able *to master conditions

FROM JON GREEN IN DOHA, QATAR

THE remarkable return to form of Mark James continued with a 67, five under par, at the Qatar Masters here yesterday. However, it was not enough to top the leader board on a blustery first day of the European PGA Tour event James is tied for third place with Bob May, of the United States, with the lead being shared by Marc Farry, of France, and Raymond Ressell, of Scotland, who are

ran gives ngland net gain

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Seven -្តីនេះ

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4

both on six under par. An eagle at the par-five 10th capped a performance that astounded nobody more than the Ryder Cup captain himself. His golf was wonderfully accurate despite the stiff breeze and he missed only one green and one fairway all morning. "I'm suspicious of this form. It's just too easy at the moment," James said. "Obviously, it's going to disappear soon, but at the moment I'm

playing really solidly." James has said that he has no intention of playing in the

Ryder Cup in September, citing the pressure of captaining the Europe team as being amough for one man to handle.

rested during the winter after tearing a muscle in his shoulder and did not pick up a club again until just before the Dubai Desert Classic last James said that the timing of the injury was fortunate

and that his game is now as good as ever. "If something like that had happened during the season, it would have been an absolute nightmare because you almost always try to come back too soon," he said. "I haven't had much practice. but the swing just seems to have clicked into place and I'm putting reasonably well. Maybe as the pressure increases during the year, it might be

more difficult, though." Russell had spent a month practising in Australia and he

8 IMPs behind. This was the hand:

Dealer North

believes that the illness and poor play that he suffered in 1998 are now behind him. The Notingham-based Scot. 26, developed hepatitis at the Johnnie Walker Classic in Thailand last year, which caused him to miss eight tournaments

and the cut in 18 others. "Possibly my illness took more out of more than I realised, but I feel I'm completely healthy now," he said. The highlight of Russell's morning was an eagle on the 16th, when he chipped in from 20 yards. The shot of the day, however, came from Eduardo Romero. The Argentinian, who is well placed at three under par, hit a hole in one on the par-three

17th to win a BMW car. lan Woosnam, Ross McFarlane, John Bickerton and Paul Lawrie, who are level on tour under par, completed a strong showing by British golfers. while Andrew Coltart, the defending champion, retrieved a disappointing round with three successive birdies to finish on one under. "It was a good finish," the Scot said. "Because of the wind at my back, I knew I had a chance to birdiethe last three, so I took it."

Ballesteros, whose form over the past couple of years has been at best indifferent, finished five over par. The Spaniard said that the wind, blowing off the Indian Ocean, played havoc with his driving. "It's very diffi-cult out there," he said. "The problem is that my driving has been letting me down. I've just got to start hitting the ball straighter, it's as simple as

A double bogey at the parfive 6th compounded the mis-ery for Ballesteros. 41. who said that his only ambition is to play a solid round. "It's not been a very good start to the year for me, but I just hope that I start to play a little better in the next few weeks," he said. "That's my only goal, to play better. Nothing more." The bad news for Ballesteros. though, is that conditions are expected to be worse today.

Wallace planning water torture for Wales



Mark Souster on the Ireland prop who found solace

on the Solent after defeat by France

t the end of last week. Paul Wallace and Richard Wallace, his older brother. went sailing in the Solent. Any sooner and Paul - the rock of Ireland upon whom many an opposing prop has foundered — might have been tempted to throw himself overboard, such was the sense of desolation at events the previous weekend at Lansdowne Road. Given the pre-match hope and hype, the manner in which the Irish had been left high and dry by the narrow defeat against France was the worst that either brother had experienced. Watching, as in Richard's case, had been bad enough; for Paul, the hurt was magnified by a factor of ten.

The most depressing result ever. I have never seen a changing-room so quiet and with so many grown men cry-ing." he said. "We did enough to win the game. The way we lost was very disheartening. There was a lot of confidence in the side and still is. Keith Wood said that if it had been the last game of the championship, instead of the first, he would have gone quietly to the sanatorium. I know how

he felt. It was that bad." The Wallace brothers and hoats might not seem to be natural bedfellows, but Paul and Richard, who share a house in North London close to the Saracens training ground, are accomplished yachtsmen - Richard good enough to represent Ireland at the European champion-



Wallace is determined to make up for the agonising defeat against France by helping Ireland to beat Wales at Wembley

By DAVID HANDS

RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

"I think I'm playing the best I have

ever played this season." Woods. 27,

said after being called up yesterday.

There has been a lot of hard work

involved but I'm delighted to be back

and I'm sure I can fit in well." He will

be helped by the presence of Conor O'Shea, at full back, and Justin Bishop.

on the right wing, his club colleagues.

However, the goalkicking duties will

remain with David Humphreys, the fly

half, who missed a difficult penalty goal

O'Mahony, the Bedford wing, steps into

the vacancy for the Ireland A side that

plays Wales at Ebbw Vale tomorrow.

that would have won the match earlier

this month with France. Darragh

ships in 1991. finishing sixth in the Laser class. Sibling rivalry being what it is, Paul asserts that he had to give up earlier because he showed ereater prowess as a rugby player. They learnt their craft

NIALL WOODS, who has enjoyed a

the Allied Dunbar Premiership, has

forced his way back into the Ireland

at Wembley on Saturday, the second

Girvan Dempsey with a hip injury. Successive generations of Ireland

selectors have found reason to doubt

Woods's defensive qualities since the

mediocre performance for Ireland A

has seldom wavered, either as

last of his seven caps, against England

in 1996, and earlier this season he had a

against South Africa. Yet his club form

goalkicker, attacking wing or even as a

weekend of the Five Nations

successful season with London Irish in

side after a three-year absence. Woods

will play on the left wing against Wales

Championship, after the withdrawal of

Wallace Sr having coached and managed the Ireland team at the Los Angeles and Seoul Olympic Games. Sailing to Cowes provided

a therapy of sorts, as the match against Wales at Wembley on Saturday could well that the sequence can be con-

THE

03 Damon Hill

04 David Coulthard

12 Ralf Schumacher

GROUP C CONSTRUCTORS

27 Benetton 28 Sauber

do for Ireland. It is one of the quirks of the Five Nations Championship that Ireland have not lost to Wales away since 1983. Wembley might be a new experience for Ireland. but Paul Wallace believes

tinued in a match that is already, somewhat prematurely, being dubbed a Celtic battle for the wooden spoon.

Could this be the start of a triple crown campaign perhaps? Paul Wallace laughed.

with the Wales selectors pairing the

second row and fielding two New

Zealand-born players - Richard

Arnold, of Newcastle, and Bren

Moore brothers, Andy and Steve, in the

Sinkinson, of Neath — in the back row.

Scotland, who will confirm their

starting XV this morning, have cast a

factor in the Calcutta Cup match at

is where England can win games."

attack and defence."

Hugh Campbell, the forwards coach,

gloomy eve over the forward strength of

England that should be a determining

Twickenham. 'The back five in the pack

"We have to look at ways of nullifying

them in this area. You have to say there is a lot of strength in their second row.

That's where they control games both in

sphere, his needs are few. As long as he can sleep, watch The Simpsons and master the PlayStation computer rugby game, he is a contented man. Put him in the green of Ireland and he takes on the persona of the Incredible Hulk. Woods seeks to make up for lost time

6ft lin and 17st of determination. Wales will feel the backlash of the France game: the Scotland forwards exposed their pack and Ireland could inflict even greater damage. So Ireland forwards versus Wales backs? "In recent times perhaps, but the Welsh pack has been strengthened and our back line has improved immensely. But yes, we will be looking to take them on up front," Wallace said.

"As nations, we have both underachieved. We've battled for the wooden spoon in recent years, but both teams expect to do better this season." The result this Saturday will dictate who can look to the future with greater confidence and whether Wallace will have, once again, to take to the water.

THE

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By Robert Sheehan, bridge correspondent When the last board of the 1998 Gold Cup semi-final between Cohen and Price was placed on the table. Cohen's team was

N-S game

9J876 & K 10 ▲ K1072 ₩ 109 0 8752 ♦ J96 S **♣** J864 **⊕** QJ8643 CAQ4 2 C 35 Pass 4 S All Pass Contract: Six Spades by

This was the auction where the best pair in the match, Gunnar Hallberg and Colin Simpson, were North-South respectively for Price's team. Simpson's Two Clubs over Hallberg's One No-Trump was an enquiry bid, and Two Hearts showed four hearts. and denied three-card spade support. When Hallberg later raised spades it seemed certain he would have ace or king doubleton, so Simpson reasonably took a shot at the

On a non-heart lead Six Spades is close to even money - if declarer decides to play on trumps immediately, he needs the spades to come in for one loser and then either the diamonds to be good for four tricks or the heart finesse to be right. On a heart lead the slam is

FASTUOSITY

Mendacity

b. An eared pot c. A sacred text

a. An Etruscan goddess

GEMARA

a Greed

b. Pride

excellent - provided there are no ruffs, all declarer needs is a 3-2 spade break, or the king or ten of spades being singleton, a better than 75% chance.

Well, there is luck in bridge matches, and here it was running Cohen's way declarer had to lose two trump tricks, and the Cohen team gained 12 IMPs to win the match by 4 IMPs when Schapiro and Gordon stopped in Four Spades at the other table. It was fitting that Sandkvist (West) held the two trump tricks against Six Spades - he was the key player in the Cohen team's

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

FARSE

a. Folly

GAVIAL

a. A crocodile

c. To interpolate

b. A dialect of Urdu

b. Fat

LEENE ōn CHESS

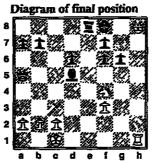
By Raymond Keene CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Twenty-five years ago

When Bobby Fischer became world champion in 1972 by defeating Boris Spassky, there were already those who feared that he might withdraw from chess and fail to defend his title. In 1974, the rising Soviet star Anatoly Karpov estab-lished himself as the leading contender to the world championship and indeed, the following year Fischer lost the title by default.

Today I celebrate Karpov's achievement by giving two wins from his match against Korchnoi, which established the young Russian as the legitimate contender, and automatically made him world champion when Fischer bowed out. White: Anatoly Karpoy Black: Viktor Korchnoi

Moscow 1974 Sicilian Defence 12 0-0-0 13 Bxc4 Nxd5 Nef4 Bxd5 exf6



White: Anatoly Karpov Black: Viktor Korchnoi Moscow 1974

Petroff Defence

Nf3 Nxe5 Nf3

Keene online You can send me your queries, puzzles, problems and games direct by e-mail. The address is keenechess@aol.com. The best contributions from Times readers will be published either here or in the Saturday Times Weekend column.

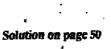
WINNING MOVE

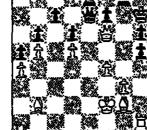
By Raymond Keene

K#S.

Qxh7+

Black to play. This position is from the game Adu - Laouini, Cairo 1998. How did Black exploit the superior activity of his forces in fine style?







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06 Jacques Villeneuve

GROUP B DRIVERS

08 Olivier Panis

16 Ricardo Zonta

17 Marc Gene 18 Jamo Trulli

19 Rubens Barri

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THE TIMES

FOOTBALL

ITV forced to share European coverage

By JOHN GOODBODY

UEFA announced television contracts yesterday worth El billion for the rights to screen the European Cup Champions' League, the biggest deal in the history of European football. However, in Great Britain, only those who subscribe to ONdigital will be able to watch 16 of the 33 matches to be screened live next season.

ITV and ONdigital have joined forces to sign a new four-year deal with Uefa which is worth £200 million. ITV will show 17 of the matches. including the final,

Games in the extended League are being staged on Wednesdays and Thursdays, with ITV getting Wednesday screenings and ONdigital the following day. Uefa deciding which English clubs will play on which day.

An spokesman for ONdigital, which is believed to have between 35,000 and 120,000 customers, said: "Our subscribers will get the games free for the first year and we will take a decision after that whether we charge them to watch matches." A subscrip-tion to ONdigital costs £7.99 a but, in season 2000-2001, it is expected that either pay-per-view will be introduced or viewers will have to take out a further subscrip-

ITV will show highlights of those matches screened live by ONdigital Jeff Farmer, head of football for ITV, said: In an ideal world, we would have liked to have done the deal on our own, but because we are a commercial channel, which has to pay bills out of programming, we were forced to take on a partner. We could not have afforded it on our

The top three finishers in the FA Carling Premiership this season will take part in the European Cup, the top two gaining automatic entry to the Champions' League group games, which start in September. The third-placed club and the Scottish champions will have to go through a qualifying compe-

PORTSMOUTH have transferred three players to Bristol Rovers in a bid to reduce losses of £35,000 per week. David Hillier, the former Arsenal player. Martin Phillips, the winger. and Robbie Pethick, the defender, are all leaving the ailing first division side. Hillier. 29. has joined Rovers on a month's loan with a view to a permanent move, while Pethick, 28, has signed for the Bristol side on a free transfer. Phillips, 22, signed by Alan Ball from Manchester City for £100.000 only six months ago, moves to the Memorial Ground in part-exchange for Justin Brown, the Rovers midfield player, with Portsmouth also receiving £50,000. lan Holloway, the Bristol

running out of control. But need it be the worst-case solution for the country? I suspect that what has happened might rebound in England's favour, if not necessarily in a rewarding way for David Davies and Geoff Thompson, the acting

he Football Association, in

its pursuit of Kevin Keegan. appears to be on a carousel

THE TIMES THURSDAY FEBRUARY 18 1999

chief executive and acting chairman. who have filled the short term with their second acting coach. England's needs are immediate.

Keegan is a man, an enthusiast, whose effect is likely to build momenturn at once, or, failing that, perhaps not at all. I believe that his motivational qualities, apart from any skills that he may lack in terms of coaching, are the best available in the crisis. England's players will not be improved by cnaching genius on the few days of the year that Keegan or anyone else has their company.

What must improve - and what was lamentable not only under Howard Wilkinson's one-match tenure against France, but also in the post-World Cup loss of faith under Glenn Hoddle — is the determination of men who pull on an England shirt to play as if it means everything to them. Keegan will demand that and probably have his feelings reciprocated. If so, if England win all four matches to which he has agreed, then who knows whether the addiction, the praise and the glory would not make him crave a full career as England coach.

Yet the FA may have made its first mistakes since the removal of Gra-ham Kelly and Keith Wiseman. It is said that the interim incumbents are to seek, from today, another new coach for England from the summer onwards, but surely they do not have the country's mandate, or the blessing of the 91 FA councillors, to instal a man who will lead the direction of football beyond their own possible expiry date. If there are more mistakes from Davies and Thompson, we could be looking at David Sheep-shanks, of Ipswich Town, and possi-bly Richard Scudamore, the chief ex-ecutive of the Nationwide Football League, in power. If they become chairman and chief executive at Lancaster Gate, maybe we should wait until the whole vacuum in the transference of power and leadership is set-

I hope that the ride that Keegan will give to England will be just as much an adventure, a thrill, a holdon-to-your-seats cavalier run that he gave to Newcastle United when he poured his restless energy into that once lapsed club. The truth may be that there is not, for a man such as Keegan, real value in employing him



Role model: Luxemburgo combines his job as manager of the Brazil national team with a role as adviser to Corinthians, the São Paulo club

"full time". He dischargesenergy, and, if Fulham did not preoccupy some of it, it could turn into doubt for make no mistake, if Keegan or anyone else was paid ten times as much, he could not, over the months available, make better players out of what is available to England.

And the players, let us also be clear, are part-time so far as the nation is concerned. England does not own any one of them, does not pay their salary, does not always have clear and first call on either their emotions or their duty. So why not a part-

time manager?

Abroad, the concept of a part-time national coach scares nobody. Germany would not dream of it, but the Germany coach is expected to plot with interminable thoroughness, to think every waking day of the op-

tions, to guide players along a path that expects and feeds off clearly de-fined lines. England is almost the opposite; the players perform best under a high tempo that masks techni-cal deficiencies, a momentum that comes from the gut and that even the best footballing nations on earth still struggle to contain.

Rob Hughes believes the enthusiasm of new coach will inspire the players

eegan, given half the chance, is a perfect catalyst to this. As a player, he ran almost beyond human capacity and elevated himself certainly beyond the sum of his talents. As a manager, at Newcastle for sure, he chose players to whom he could transmit this desire. And when the football critics said he was exposed. when he gave his emotional outburst after feeling cheated by Alex Ferguson, the Manchester United manager, those same observers failed to acknowledge that the players loved it, loved it! They, and the Geordie nation, felt at that moment, that Keegan was impassioned for their cause, and they would give everything in the cavalier attempt that he led.

So, if those temporarily running Lancaster Gate have decided this is the enthusiast to lead the orchestra. for heaven's sake lend an ear to him. Keegan would, in any event, manage by intuition. He already knows. I am sure, who would respond to his enthusiasm.

Overseas, there are two national team coaches who have attempted what Keegan seeks to do, holding the reins of a club and country in either hand. Vanderley Luxemburgo became the Brazil manager after the

World Cup last summer, but he con-tinued to manage the Corinthians of São Paulo to the domestic championship. He wanted to continue, but Brazil, whose players are scattered around the world, need a traveller as much as a manager. Luxemburgo has instead compromised and, while his deputy at Corinthians, Valdo de Oliviera, will run the club, Luxemburgo will remain his unpaid but con-

stant adviser. In Russia, Oleg Romantsev has just accepted responsibility for the national team, without giving up his day job with Moscow Spartak. He begins this duet on March 27 and, logically, he will build the national side around Spartak.

To each his own, but to Kevin

Keegan, part time or full time, an adventure for England.

SPORT

Kirsten ensures one-day triumph

III CRICKET: Gary Kirsten. the opening baisman, was named man of the match after scoring 81 not out as South Africa won the second limited-overs international against New Zealand by seven wickets. After restricting New Zealand to 220 for nine. South Africa reached 224 for three with seven overs to spare, thanks to Kirsten, Hansie Cronie. who made 74 not out, and Jacques Kallis, who scored 53. The six-match series is level at 1-1 with the third game scheduled for Auckland on

Şaturday.

BASKETBALL: Ronnie Baker, who sat out the past two internationals, has been given a chance to resurrect his England career (Nicholas Harling writes). The darting playmaker, whose form this season has helped Manchester Giants to stay in pursuit for the Budweiser League title, is in the squad of 12 announced for the completion of England's programme in group C of the European championship semi-final round.

MOTOR RACING: Arrows has confirmed that Pedro Martinez de la Rosa, of Spain, is to join the team for the new season. The signing of Martinez, along with that of Marc Gené, who has joined Minardi, ensures that there will be Spanish drivers on the Formula One grid for the first time in ten years. Arrows has furthered its links with Spain by signing a deal with Repsol, the Spanish oil company.

MOTOR RALLYING: Two days after finishing third in the Swedish Rally on his debut for Ford. Thomas Radstrom's career is in doubt after he fell downstairs at a Nairobi hotel and broke his left leg in two places. Radstrom, who is team-mate to Colin McRae, the British driver, will be flown to Sweden today, where he will be examined by doctors to

assess the severity of the

FOOTBALL IN BRIEF

Rovers manager, has also signed Nathan Ellington from Walton and Hersham, the non-league club, for £150,000. Ellington, 17, has signed a 21/2-year contract with the second division side.

LIVERPOOL yesterday signed Djimi Traore from Laval, the French second division club. Gérard Houllier, the Liverpool manager, worked with the 18-year-old defender when he was technical director of the French Football Association. Liverpool have paid an initial fee of £550,000 for the 6ft 3in Traore, who is rated one of the brightest prospects in France.

MARK BOSNICH, the Aston Villa goalkeeper, is aiming to return from injury against Coventry City on February 27 — five months after injuring his shoulder against the same team at Highfield Road. Bosnich is stepping up the rehabilitation programme on the shoulder on which he had an operation in December and, within the next week, he will attempt to dive on it for the first time. John Gregory, the Villa manager, is waiting to see whether Ugo Ehiogu, his central defender, will need

surgery to repair the

Shearer, of Newcastle.

fractured eye socket that he

suffered in a clash with Alan

Premiership. RON NOADES, the Brentford manager, is poised to sign Scott Partridge. Torquay United's leading scorer, for £100,000. Noades has agreed a fee with Wes Saunders, the Torquay manager, and is to discuss terms with the player.

■ GEORGE BURLEY. the

Ipswich Town manager, is

Holsgrove, the Hibernian

giving a trial to Paul

midfield player, as be attempts to breathe life into

his side's automatic

promotion challenge.

Holsgrove joins Jim

Magilton and Marlon

loan, as Burley believes

Harewood, both signed on

experience could be the key

to reaching the FA Carling

FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL

ENGLAND SQUAD (for line) matches in European champonship semi-line) round): J Armsechi (Limoges, Fri), R. Batter (Marchester Gaents), S. Buckmall (Palacanestro Reguera, II), S. Cheung (Athon teper, Bel), C. Hasslem (Appollon Ausia, Gr), D. Herrinsen (Den Heider, Holl), P. Scanniebury (Steffield Sharks), R. Curter (KFI, Ice), R. Haugglas (Antwerp, Bel), A. Betta, (Feath System Bologna, II), N. Donovan (Derby Storm), S. Hansell (Pisidia, II) Storm), S Harisell (Piciola, It)
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Phiteclaigha 92 Milwauliee 93, New Jersey 97 Detrot 62, Clewetand 90 Orlando 78, New York
95 Torento 85, Indiana 78 Milem 88; Chicapo 67 Atlanta 83, Houston 109 Process 92,
Saante 71 Utah 56, Sacramento 101 Boston
88 Los Angeles Lahera 116 Cherlotte 88;
Los Angeles Lahera 116 Cherlotte 88;
Los Angeles Cappers 89 Vancouver 93
(OT)

CRICKET

One-day international New Zealand v South Africa CHRISTCHURCH (New Zealand won loss). South Africa beat New Zealand by seven

NEW ZEALAND

NEW ZEALAND

M J Home c Culinan b Polloch.

N J Aste c Pottock b Kalis.

R G Terces c Symbox b Kilssner
C D McMillen c Culinan b Pollock
J A C Parore c Boucher b Pollock
O J Mash e Culinan b Donald
C Z Harm, not out...

D L Veton b Donald
S B Ooul c and b Pollock
Eures (b 7, w r. nb 3). Total (9 wids, 50 overs)... G I Allot ded not ball. FALL DF WICKETS: 1-7, 2-11, 3-29, 4-131, 5-147, 6-188, 7-213, 8-213, 9-220

5-147, 5-168, (-013, 5-103, 5-120 BOMING Politok 10-1-45-4, Kalis 5-0-28-1; Donald 10-0-34-3; Klusener 5-0-25-1, Symptox 6-1-38-0; Bole 10-0-43-0. SOUTH AFRICA

G Karsten not but L Klusener c Twose b Allolt ... D J Cullinen c Parcre b Allolt ... J H Kalls low b Larsen Total (3 value, 43 overs). J N Rhodes, S M Pollock, † M V Boucher, N Bole, P I, Symonx and A A Donald did not

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-4, 2-12, 3-115. 90WLNG: Douglat-1240; Alott 10-1-424; 90WLNG: Douglat-1240; Alott 10-1-424; Nest: 5-0-25-0; Vetton 5-0-41-0; Harns 6-0-23-0; Larsen 7-1-32-1; Aste 3-0-12-0; Nchillan 3-0-20-0 Umpres: C E King and E A Watkin.

AUTO WINDSCREENS SHELD: North-em section: Quarter-final, first leg: Post-poned: Rochdale v Halfax.

Tuesday's late results
WORTHWIGTON CUP: Semi-final, second leg: Wimbledon O Tottenham Hotspur
1 (Tottenham wan 1-0 on sop)
NATIONWIDE LEAGUE: First division:
Norwork of Bernsley O, Wastord 7 Huddersteid 1 Second division: Wigen 3 Notia Co
7 Third division: Destington 0 Hull 1; Swensea 2 Brentford 1.
AUTO WINDSCREENS SHIELD: Northern section, semi-final: Lincoln 1 Westtern 2 leat, 1-1 after 90min, Wiesdam van
or golden goel rulei Southern section,
semi-finals: MBwell 1 Gillingham 0 (aet,
Milwell van on golden goel rulei: Walsell 1
Cambridge Uid 1 (ear 1-1 after 90mn, Wiesell van 4-3 on pers)

on general control of care and control of care and a control of care and care and

Stapenhill 2 Knypersley 1 Invitation Cup: Third round: Wolverhampton Casuels 0 Bencton 3.
COURHAGE COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Ashlord 4 Heritey Writney 0, Chipstead 3 Cranleigh 1, Merchann 0 Cobham 0, Raynes Park Vale 4 Natherne 2; Reading 2 Ash 1, Viking Sports 4 Walton 1.
NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Staveley MW 2 Garforth 2 League Cup: Third round: Buston 0 North Ferrity 4.
NORTH WESTERN TRAINS LEAGUE: First division: Atherton 0 St Helens 1. Flood-like Trophy: Third round: Russendale 3 Derwen 1. League Cup: Third-round replay: Neucaste (Jone 2 Sissep) North Erd 1.
ARNOTT INSURANCE NORTH LEAGUE: First division: Morphy 2 Stockon 0, South Singlids 2 Newcastle Blue Star 0, Tow Lea 2 Shidon 3. West Auckdand 1 Billangham Synthona 2.

Shidon 3, West Auckland 1 Billengham Synthona 2.

ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE MIDILAND COMBINATION: Primiler of Myslon: Contential Sar 0 Aveston 2, Messey Ferguson 0 Coverny Sphrix 0 Challenge Capteguarth round: Southam 6 Federaham 0 JEWSON LEAGUE: Premier division: Oss 0 Federations of the Synthesis of State of Synthesis o

CATAR MASTERS: Leading first-round acorate (Greet Brisan and Iroland unless stated): 88: M Fany (Ft), R Russell 67: M Juries, R May (IS) 68: P Nyman (Swa), J Beleston, I Woosaman, R McFarlane, P Lowne, S8: A Ceija (Ger), K Torron (Jepan), E Romero (Argi, W Riley (Aus), J Van de Veitle (Ft), G Evens, S Gallacher 70: P Affeck, V Phatips, P Phoe, R Goosen (SA) M A Marth (SO), S kiedisen (Den), 71: P Harmglon, C Hanell (Swa), M Jonzon (Swa), W Bermell, Zhang Lan-we (China), R Derksen (Holl), M Turniciff, P Eales, A Collart, J Spence, S Fled, Kang Wook-soon (S Kor), I Garbutt, G Orr, A Rest.

CLUB MATCH (at Milton Keynes): Cam bridge University 5 Army 3.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Phoenix 1 Philadelphe 4 WELSH LEAGUE: First division: South

ABERDERN: Scottish Open (England unless sisted) First round: A Hamilton bt S James 5-3. J Higgors (Soot) bt L Griffin 5-3. J Parrot bt D Firthow 5-3: M Williams (Males) bt P Lines 5-4. K Broughton bt J Wattern (Tha) 5-2. J Whee bt L Walles (Wales) 5-2. Second round: K. Doheny (Ins) bt M Campber (Soot) 5-1. A McManus (Soot) bt M Thome 5-2: F O'Bnen (Ins) bt A Diago (Malta) 5-4. G Dott (Soot) bt O Hann (Aus) 5-2. B Morgan bt O Henry (Soot) 5-3. Higgins bt S Petimen 5-0. Perioti bt L Fernancia: (te) 5-2. S Hendry (Soot) bt N Pearce 5-2. C Small (Soot) bt D Clarke 5-2.

NATIONAL SUPER LEAGUE: Halifax in-surance 1 Ellis Stockbrokers Lingfield 2 (M Berrett bt P Johnson 7-9, 9-7, 9-5, 4-9, 10-8, A Toes lost to T Hards 6-9, 4-9, 9-2, 9-5, 3-9 D Campson lost to T Gerner 7-9 9-6, 4-9, 9-3, 7-9; Le Sport Colveys Bay 0 Conservers Millerione & Manaches 3 (M Techno 9-6. 4-9. 9-3. 7-9; Le Sport Colombia 7-9. Durawen Windoms Maesteg 9 ft Taylor lost to A Gough 3-8. 9-3. 3-9. 9-2. 6-9. P. Lord lost to D Events 7-9. 6-9. P. Who lost to M Carns 10-8. 5-9. 3-9. 9-6. 7-9. Langue positions: 1. Bits Stockholess Implied 3905. 2. Durawen Windows Maesteg 22, 3. Halitar Insurance 18, 4, Le Sport Colombia 8-9. 10

MALINO: World Care Elgith round (chordourse) Winners: Ment Freehtyler 50m: G Borges (8r) 22:16sec 200m: T Pearson (Ass) 1mm 47:50sec, 1,500m: J Hortman (Ger) 14:337 Backstroke: 50m: S Thejoke (Ger) 25:05:200m: Thejoke 56:10 Street 1 Microsoft 15:755 Breattstroke: 100m: F Deburgngrave (Bel 1 00:12 Butterfly: 100m: J Horman (GB) 52:29 Mediley: 200m: J Sevener Jim 158,32 British placing: 2, Horman 159,17 Women: Froesiyle: 180m: K Missister (Ger) 55:59 400m: Chen Hatt (Chordours) 104:78 British placing: 2, Horman 104:78 British placing: 3, C Smart 109:88, Backstroke: 100m: L Omstedt (Den) 101:04, Breaststroke: 50m: L Omstedt (Den) 110:04, Breaststroke: 50m: L Missister 100m: L Omstedt (Den) 110:10 Street (Ber) 15:05 British placing: 3, M Pedder 213:02 Mediley: 100m: M Limpen (Can) 1:02:19 400m: J Maker (Can) 4:37:45

ROTTERDANI: Indoor teampament: Pirst round: Y Kaleinskov (Russ) b: R Schuffer (Ger) 7-6, 6-3. D Hybriny (Cz) bi P Wassels (Hotil 6-3, 6-7, 7-6; J Golmárd (Fr) tal F Marsula (So) 6-0, 6-4, 6-3 Sepond round: R-Cuber (Sentz) bi B Udmach (Cz) 6-4, 7-5 HANOVER: WTA hournament: Second round: S Testud (Fr) bi A Huber (Ger) 6-3, 8-3 S Graf (Ger) bi A C Satu (Fr) 6-1, 6-3, B Schett (Austria) bi V Rusno-Pascual (Sp) 7-5, 6-2

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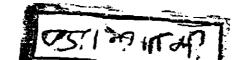


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sabelle Autissier, who was rescued in the Southern Ocean on Tuesday, was yester day still trying to work out why her boat, PRB, capsized in only 20 knots of wind and stayed upside down, forcing her to send a May Day signal and putting her out of the Around Alone Race

Not long after the rescue by Giovanni Soldini, who resumed his easterly heading towards Cape Horn on Fila. Autissier explained the sequence of events that led to the loss of the Groupe Finotdesigned Open 60, in which she had already completed

one circumnavigation. Eric Coquerel, her spokesman, said that the boat had initially been knocked down to 90 degrees (with its mast

How Autissier's world turned upside down

lying on the surface of the water) after an autopilot fault slewed PRB off course. As she scrambled to retrieve what is a fairly common "crash" in Open 60 sailing, she was shocked when the boat turned right over and staved there, even though the swing keel was still in place.

"What is surprising, and what Isabelle does not understand, was that the boat rapidly overturned to a full inverted position. Isabelle had just enough time to take

Edward Gorman relates the events behind a dramatic

ocean rescue

refuge inside and send out a distress signal." Coquerel Soldini, who had sailed 200 miles in 24 hours to reach Autissier, said initially that he could not find her at

the co-ordinates given to him

by race officials monitering However, after sailing about two miles northwest, he spot-ted the upturned hull. Autissier was asleep when Soldini

several more hours.

As he made two pa

but there was no response.

the carbon-fibre hull. Autiss

arrived, having guessed that he would not reach her for close to the boat. Soldini yelled out Autissier's name. On the third pass, he threw a hammer that clattered along

ier then emerged from an escape hatch in the transom and Soldini picked her up. Yesterday, FILA was 358

miles astern of the only other yacht left in the Class I race, Marc Thiercelin's Some-where, which is the new overall leader. Thiercelin has his own problems, though, having broken the gooseneck fitting (where the boom attaches to the base of the mast) in an incident during which his boat almost somersaulted as it sped down wind.

It was impossible for me to turn back for Isabelle against the prevailing winds with a broken boom," he said, "When I turned back to look for Gerry Roufs in the Vendée Globe race, against the prevailing winds, I broke the bow of my boat."

TENNIS: FOURTEEN ACES HELP REVITALISED BRITON TO SEE OFF KIEFER'S CHALLENGE

Rusedski plays trump card

TENNIS CORRESPONDENT IN ROTTERDAM

THESE are trying times for Greg Rusedski as he searches for a semblance of his best. That remained elusive at the indoor tournament here vesterday, although the Briton cleared a difficult first-round hurdle when he vaulted over

the ambition of Nicolas Kiefer. Confidence is Rusedski's fuel and he was frank in acknowledging the fact after inching past Kiefer 7-6, 4-6, 6-3 in a fraction over two hours. His victory was the first in the four matches this year that he has been taken to a deciding set, hence the glow of satisfaction after what was, by any reckoning, a scrappy match.

What helped to colour Rusedski's cheeks was a 221kph ace, his fastest of the year vet still some 20kph below his optimum indoors. It signalled that he is gradually unravelling the chains that have been restricting his heaviest piece of artillery.

'i have been returning well, but serving is my key weapon," Rusedski said, "and it has not been working too well. When it does, the rest of my game seems to follow. I felt that that was the best I have served this year."

Although Rusedski, seeded No 5, hammered down 14 aces, Kiefer all but matched him, serving one fewer. The German, a finalist in Dubai last week, won 35 of his 40 first-service points. "I could barely get a racket on to them early in the match," Rusedski said after only his third victory of the fledgeling season.

In the end, Kiefer betrayed himself with a low first-service ratio of 45 per cent. Rusedski recorded a pleasing 60 per cent, well above his seasonal average to date and without which Kiefer, world-ranked No 35, would undoubtedly have won this match. Instead, he became Rusedski's highest-

ranked victim of 1999. That the contest required a deciding set was entirely due to Rusedski, who had outmanoeuvred his opponent to create an open court, fluffing an easy backhand kill at break point and 5-5 in the opening set. To his credit, Rusedski dug in through the subsequent tie-break, which Kiefer gifted him courtesy of a mis-hit back-

This error-strewn theme embraced the entire contest, in

Answers from page 47

FASTUOSITY

FARSE

WORD-WATCHING

(b) The quality of being fastuous. Haughtiness, ostentation, pomposity. In Latin fastuosus means proud, arrogant. "Either a

solid Greatness or a turnid Fastuosity and affected Greatness.

(c) The later of the two portions of the Talmud, consisting of a

commentary on the older part (the Mishna). The Aramaic means

(c) To amplify (a liturgical formula) by the insertion of certain words. To provide (an epistle) with a farse or interpolated vernacular comment. From the Latin for stuffing.

(a) A saurian inhabiting the Ganges, distinguished by its elongated muzzle from the American alligator and the African crocodile.

There are fierce contests in their native jungles, on the banks of

SOLUTION TO WINNING MOVE

A corrupt adaptation of the Hindustani name for the brute.

the Ganges, between the gavial and the tiger.

1 Be4+! Qxe4 2 Qxf7+ Rg7 3 Qxg7 checkmate.



Rusedski serves notice against Kiefer yesterday that he is getting back to his best

which mistakes far outnumbered winners. Rusedski gave vent to his fragile mental state. slamming a ball into the back netting on dropping his service at the start of the second set and again when double-faulting 15 minutes later after his time after a brace of double first service was negated by a foot fault. He was fortunate to escape censure as Kiefer duly

levelled the match. However, Rusedski struck first in the deciding set, this

faults caused Kiefer to surrender his opening service game tamely. Rusedski narrowly avoided a similar fate before holding for 3-0.

Rusedski revealed just how

important a victory it was after his second-round humbling by Francisco Clavet in Dubai last week. "That was the first time I have ever lost a match from being a set and two breaks up." he said, "and that includes my days as a iumior. It was good to be able

to forget all about that." Indeed, the Great Britain No 2 will be expecting to make further progress today, when he tackles Edwin Kempes, a local wild-card entrant and world-ranked No 174, in the second round. Tim Henman was due to play Petr Korda late last night for a quarterfinal place.

Kiefer's fine run in Dubai was halted by Jérome Golmard, of France, who opened his campaign here with a re-sounding 6-0, 6-4 dismissal of

Steff Graf, the former world No I. delighted her supporters when she beat Anne-Gaelle Sidot, of France, 6-1, 6-3 to reach the third round of the Faber Grand Prix in Hanover. Her next opponent is Barbara Schett, of Austria, who beat Virginia Ruano-Pascal, of Spain, 7-5, 6-2.

Felix Mantilla. Golmard toyed with his Spanish opponent, his deceptively heavy forehand routinely penetrating Mantilia's porous defences. Golmard, 25, defeated consecutive top-ten opponents in Karol Kucera, Henman and then Carlos Moyà en route to landing his first title in Dubai. He is now scheming further misalready shorn of Alex Corretja, the No I seed, and Thomas Enqvist, the No 7 seed. Both were first-round losers, Engvist to Wayne Ferreira, who opposes Golmard today.

Making equally ominous noises is the hard-hitting Roger Federer, of Switzerland. The Wimbledon junior champion last year. Federer qualified for this tournament and promptly added to those gains yesterday when accounting for Bohdan Ulihrach 6-4, 7-5. Rusedski, for one, is aware of Federer's potential. "I haven't seen a 17-year-old with his ability in a long time."

LINKS WEBSITES: www.aiptour.com

TELEVISION Eurosport, 200pm, 5,30pm (ive)

SQUASH

Johnson slips up at Halifax

ELLIS Stockbrokers Lingfield fielded their second team at Halifax in the National Super League this week. With Paul Johnson, the national champion, at first string, they defeated Halifax Insurance 2-1 at Queen's Sports Club and moved seven points ahead at

the top of the table. Surprisingly, Johnson, 26, the left-hander who took his first British title earlier this month in Manchester, lost 7-9, 9-7, 9-5, 4-9, 10-8, to the fast-improving Marcus Berrett. However, Lingfield rescued the tie through fighting five-game victories from Tony Hands and

BY COUN MCQUILLAN

Tim Garner. When the going gets tougher soon, the Surrey squad will doubtless reinforce their ranks with Peter Nicol. the world No I. and Rodney Eyles, a former world champion, just as they did when dinching the league and cup double last season.

Dunraven Windows Maesteg took Welsh honours with a 3-0 win over Le Sport Colwyn Bay that put them in second place on 22 points. Colwyn Bay was a late entrant after the club was purchased last year by Phil Whitlock, a

former British and over-35 champion. Whitlock's Manchester connection is apparent in the Colwyn Bay line-up. Nick Taylor, the first string, and Paul Lord, at second string, are the leading players from Lancashire and Cheshire, respectively.

They could do little, however, against the Maesteg line-up of Alex Gough, the Welsh No I, David Evans, the Welsh champion, and Mark Cairns. a former British champion, although Whitlock denied his advancing years by extending Cairns to 7-9 in the fifth game of their third-string encounter.

Heartbeat by the sea

BBC1. 8.00pm

The latest starring vehicle for the personable Nick Berry is another easygoing drama in the Heartbeat mould, or at least that is the conclusion from the opening episode which features the improbable tale of a bigamist who tries to fake his death. None of which has much to do with Berry's role as Mike Nicholls, the harbourmaster of a South Coast town. Harbour Lights begins by recalling Nicholles mergings are as a naval commandsouth Coast town: Frantour Lights begins by recaning Nicholls's previous career as a naval commander, during which his best friend drowned. But the funeral, and the suggestion that Nicholls was partly to blame, are a misleadingly sombre introduction to a show that, far from trying to disturb, is firmly on the benign side. Collectors of trivia will want to know that the location for the series, West Bay in Dorset, provides the same heach from which Reginald Perrin staged his bogus suicide.

Fred Dibnah's Industrial Age BBC2, 8.00pm

The Bolton steeplejack who became a television celebrity in the 1970s blowing up chimneys hosts a series in which he pays affectionate homage to Britain's industrial past. Donning overalls and flat cap be tours heritage museums and the like and drools over old steam engines and water mills which have been saved from the scrapyard and lovingly restored to their original state. Although this is an unpretentious introduction to industrial archaeology, delivered by an enthusiast who would not pretend to be anything else, the series does deliver an important history lesson. Britain may have been the birthplace of the Industrial Revolution but within 200 years steam had been superseded and many of the mines, mills and factories had closed. Hence the need to preserve

The Murder of Stephen Lawrence

There have been any number of documentaries about the Lawrence case and now comes the faction, that grey area between fact and fiction that uses a script and actors but purports to present only what really happened. As drama, there is little to fault the production, which was written and

Nick Berry stars in the new drama series Harbour Lights (BBCl. Spm)

directed by Paul Greengrass. The casting, headed by Hugh Quarshie and Marianne Jean-Baptiste as the Lawrence parents, is faultless and the performances exude conviction. Fluid camerawork injects pace and realism. In its account of the tragedy and its controversial aftermath the film is unsens-ational and tries to be dispassionate. It presents what it sees as the facts and leaves us to judge.

Greengrass, of course, was not there. But the integrity of his project is beyond doubt.

Playing the Field BBC1, 9.30pm

Kay Mellor's robust northern drama returns for a Kay Mellor's robust normern drama returns for a deserved second series, picking up much where it left off. In recommending Playing the Field to newcomers it must be said that those who missed the original run will be confused at first. For Mellor sustains a large ensemble cast whose relationships intertwine in far from straightforward ways. There is a birth in tonight's episode, for instances in the birth are the chiracter of the contraction of t for instance, with two men thinking that they are the father. In line with Mellor's commitment to realism, it is one of the most convincing births portrayed in a television fiction, with a very pregnant actress, Lorraine Ashbourne, playing the mother. Playing the Field continues to be based around a women's football learn, but even more than before the football is secondary to what takes place off the pitch.

Peter Waymark

This is the latest in a run of one-off comedies being tested with a view to one of them becoming a series later in the year. Takeaway, written by Catherine MacPhail, is very much the Scottish offering and it

has loss of pace, both in the writing and Kathy Smith's production. The pivotal role is that of

rude to allcomers, whether customers or staff. There is plenty to be bad-tempered about, includ-

ing a robbery, radio hams on the frequency her

delivery drivers use and a seemingly immoveable drunk ("I want my pizza delivered, I just want to be attached to it at the time").

Peter Barnard

Carol De Luca (Katy Murphy), a sort of down-market Marco Pierre White who runs a pizza parlour and who has an interesting policy of being

Afternoon Play: Waistland Radio 4, 2, 15pm

This play by Tanika Gupta about members of the eponymous club for slimmers has a strong documentary feel, especially in the powerful confess ional element at meetings. The central character is Vanessa (Lisa Jacobs), who runs the club and, at first, gives the impression that her life is as under control as her body. The members of the club are unterly convincing and include Jane: "I've tried everything, the F-Plan, the G-Plan, the Cambridge diet. I even mied a Mars Bar diet once and erunted in spots." It transpires that beneath the calm and controlled exterior shown to her clients, Vanessa is full of hang-ups, panicky that her own weight might balloon and unclear what to do about her on-off relationship with Steve (Shaun Dingwall).

RADIO 1 (BBC)

outurem zun sein suru Mark Goodier 12.00pm Kevin Greening 2.00 Mark Radciffie 4.00 Chris Moyes 5.45 Newsbeat 6.00 Dave Pearce 8.00 Steve Lamacq: The Evening Session 10.00 Trade Update 10.10 John Peel 12.00em Andy Kershew 2.00 Citve Warren 4.00 Scott Mills

RADIO 2 (BBC)

i.00am Sarah Kannedy 7.30 Wogan 9.30 Ken Bruce 12.00pm Richard Liftlejohn 2.00 Ed Stevent S.05 Johnnie Walker 7.00. Devid Allan 8.00 Paul Jones 9.00 Punt and Dennie: It's Been a Bad Wesk (2/5) 9.30 Cornedy Showcase: Takeaway. See-Choice (5/7) 10.00 Melly Talks Jazz 10.30 Richard Allanson 12.00am Kaltnna Leskenich 3.00 Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE (BBC)

and Victoria Derbyshire 9.00 Nicky Campbell 12.00pm The Middey News. Presented by Allan Robb 1.90 Ruscoe and Co 4.00 Drive. Presented by Jane Carvey and Peter Allen 7.00 News Estra 7.30 On the Line. New series. Investigation of controversial sporting issues 8.00 Inside Edge 9.00 Hoops 9.30 Sportshop 10.00 Late Night Live 1.00am Up All Night

TALK RADIO

6.00am The Big Boys Breakfast 9.00 Scott Chisholm 12.00pr My Favourite Year 1.00 Anna Radburn 3.00 Peter Deeley 5.00 The SportZone 7.00 One to One with Andy Gray 8.00 James Whale 1.00am Ian Collins and the Creatures of the Night

6.30cm Chris Evans 9.30 Fluss Williams 1.00pm Nick Abbot 4.00 Harriet Scott 6.45 Pete and Geoff 10.00 Mark Forrest 1.00cm James Mentt 4.30 Richard Allen

6.00am On Air with Petroc Trek

O. Olam Unit Air Wan Febro (Treawny
 O. Masterworks with Peter Hobday
 10.30 Artist of the Week: Rephael Walffisch
 11.00 Sound Stories: Extles — Thomas Mann
 12.00pm Composer of the Week: Dvorak
 1.00 The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert A recital given
 by the Italian viol consort Labyanto
 2.00 The BBC Orchestras Uister Orchestra
 4.00 Ensemble (1)

2.00 The BOOL Ottnessura Unsur Ordessura 4.00 Ensemble (†) 4.45 Music Machine with Torrity Pearson 5.00 In Tune Sean Pafferty celebrates the 60th birthday of the clarinatist Alan Hacker 7.30 Performance on 3 Henze's chamber opera. Elegy

BBC WORLD SERVICE

Comedy Showcase: Takeaway Radio 2, 930pm

5.00mm The World Today 7.00 World News 7.15 Outlook 7.55
My Century 8.00 World News 8.05 From Our Own
Correspondent 8.20 Off the Shelf: Capiain Corell's Mandolin
8.35 The World of Music 9.50 Sports Round-Up 10.00
Newsdesk 10.30 Britain Today 10.45 Performance 11.00
Newsdesk 10.30 Britain Today 10.45 Performance 11.00
Newsdesk 11.30 Assignment 12.00pm World News 12.05
Outlook 12.45 Sports Round-Up 1.00 Newsdesk 2.00 World News
3.05 The World News 2.30 Mendian Books 3.00 World News
3.05 Sports Round-Up 3.15 Westway 3.30 The Greenfield
Collection 4.00 World News 4.15 Insight 4.30 The Music
Studio 4.46 The Lab 5.00 Europie Today 5.30 World Business
Report 5.45 Sports Round-Up 6.00 World News 6.15 Britain
Today 6.30 Assignment 7.00 World News 7.05 The Worls
7.30 From Our Own Correspondent 7.45 Off the Shelf: Capian
Corell's Mandolin 8.00 Newshour 9.00 World News 9.05
World Business Report 9.20 Britain Today 9.30 Meridan
Books 10.00 World News 10.15 Sports Round-Up 10.30 The
Music Studio 10.45 The Lab 11.00 World News 11.05 Outlook
12.00 mm The World Today 12.30 The Worls 12.55 My Century
1 100 The World Today 12.30 The Worls 12.55 My Century 12.00am The World Today 12.30 The Works 12.55 My Century 1.00 The World Today 1.30 Westway 1.45 Performance 2.00 The World Today 2.30 To cus on Faith 3.00 The World Today 3.20 Sports Round-Up 3.30 World Business Report 3.45 Insight 4.00 The World Today

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Nick Balley's Easier Breaklast. A selection of musac to start the day 8.00 Henry Kelly. The Half of Fame Hour Plus, favourite places voted for in the Cassic FM Top 300 12.00pm functione Requests. Jane Jones presents lavourite music 2.00 Concerto. Mendelssohn (Violin Concerto in Eminor) 3.00 Jamie Crick Continuous Classics and Alternoon Romance 6.30 Newshight 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven John Brunning introduces classic sounds 9.00 Evening Concert Bach (Toccata and Fugue in D minor); Bruch (Viloin Concerto No 1 in G minor); Bizet (Au fond du temple sant); Streuss (Also Sprach Zeralinustra), Ravel (Bolero), Beethoven (Ode to Joy) 11.00 Michael Mappin 2.00em Concerto. Mendelss ohn (Violin Concerto in E minor) (f) 3.00 Mark Gniffiths

for Young Lovers. With Quentin Hayes, baritone, Susannah Waters, soprano, Susan Bickley, mazzo, Roderick Kennedy, bass, Jon Gamson, tenor, Lulisa Kermedy-Richardson, soprano, and Timothy Davies, actor. London Sinfonietta under Markus Startz.

10.15 Postscript: Magnum at the Millennium (5/5) (r)
10.45 Night Waves Paul Allen tals to the sculptor
Fichard Deacon about his new exhibition
11.30 Jazz Notes Alyn Shipton is joined by Campbell
Burnap to review the latest CDs
12.00am Composer of the Week: Telemann (r)
1.00 Through the Night

5.30am World News 5.35 Shipping Forecast 5.40 Inshore Forecast 5.45 Prayer for the Day 5.47 Farming Today With Rachel Morgan 6.00 Today 9.00 Methyn Bragg: In Our Time 9.30 Q & A New series with Jac Nelson 9.45 (FM) Serial: Planet of the Blind (4/5) 9.45 (LW) Dally Service 10.00 Woman's Hour with Jerni Muray 11.00 From Our Own Correspondent

11.00 From Our Own Corresponder

11.30 Fat Chance Jenny McDade's comedy (2/5)
12.00pm (FM) News
12.00 (LW) News Headlines; Shipping Forecast
12.04 You and Yours Consumer news
1.00 The World at One with Nick Clarke
1.30 Open Country with Richard Undge
2.00 The Archers Yesterday's edition (r)
2.15 Afternoon Play: Walstiand See Choice
3.00 Call You and Yours 0870 010 0444
3.30 Science In the Aftic Bill Courtney (4/5) (r)

3.45 This Sceptred (sie with Arna Massey.
4.00 Law in Action with Marcel Berlins
4.30 The Metherial World with Trevor Phillips
5.00 PM with Clare English and Eddie May
6.00 Str. O'Clock News 6.30 Yes, Minister (f)
7.00 The Archers 7.15 Front Row with John Wilson
7.45 The Cry of the Bittern (f)
8.00 On Tapt. A History of Drinking Water (1/3)
8.30 The Week in Westminster
9.00 Testheds with Vanessa Colfrigidge
9.30 Melvys Bragg: In Our Time (f)
10.00 The World Tonight Presented by Roben Lustin
10.45 Book at Bedtime: Post Captain (4/10)
11.30 (FM) A Good Reed (f)
11.30 (FM) A Good Reed (f)
11.30 (LW) Today in Parliament
11.45 (LW) Parliamentary Postcards
12.00am News 12.30 The Late Book: All Points
North by Sympa Amiseo e (f)

11.30 (LW) Today in Frankhem 11.45 (LW) Parliamentary Postcards 12.00am News 12.30 The Late Book: All Points North by Simon Armitage e (r) 12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-93.8. RADIO 2. FM 68.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE. MW 693, 909. WORLD SERVICE. MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.6; MW 1197. 1215. TALK RADIO. MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio Estings compiled by lan Hughes, Resemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and

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Waxing lyrical on a bunch of dummies

like sale shoppers who will samp outside Harrods to be the first through the doors to secure some bargain. But the minute they get the thing home they start wondering if they've been duped and whether it was worth all the effort in the first place.

Once the thrill is over famous people hate being photographed, being pestered by autograph hunters and being laughed at in supermarkets when they buy economy loo rolls. The only way you can reignite their appetite for fame is by threatening to take it

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The mean

This is what makes a berth in Madame Tussaud's so attractive to a celebrity. Their fans can get their fill of them by seeing their waxwork double, with the added bonus - as far as we could tell from BBC2's Modern Times: Wax-Works of the Rich and Famous — ously, "liked the fact that they put her." Which sounded needlessly

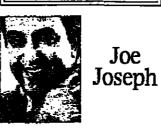
elebrities can behave oddly about their fame. They are like sale shoppers who will parts of Linford Christie's anatomy. Particularly parts of Linford Christie's anatomy. tomy. This may explain why the celebrities we saw interviewed last night were thrilled that they were famous enough to have been

chosen for inclusion. "It's rather like being made a Dame," trilled Joanna Lumley, who, to be fair, is usually graceful about the blessings and burdens of her celebrity. "I remember going completely scarlet with excitement." Terry Venables thought it was a "great privilege". Jimmy Savile explained that "when you are asked to be effigyed and waxed in such a place, you know that you are near the top of the ladder. And when you are taken out of Madame Tussaud's you know that you are several rungs lower down and that the trajectory is downwards, as against upwards."

To their credit, Jimmy and Geoffrey are not so vain that they regularly join Madame Tussaud's three million visitors a year, just so that they can keep tabs on their doubles. We know this because they both seem to think that their bodies still figure among the 300 celebrities on display: in fact, they have both been axed, although the criteria for keeping some exhibits and melting down others seem a little random.

arabara Cartland is still there, even though someone has stolen her dog and and even though she herself is not in great shape. "She's gone a bit nicotine-coloured," said the woman attending to Dame Barbara's regular morning makeREVIEW

Joe



insensitive until it became clear that she was referring to the dummy's 20-year-old wig and not Dame Barbara herself.

All that remains of Boycott and Savile are their severed heads. These are stacked on crowded shelves alongside dozens of other de-listed heads, like the result of some savage celebrity cull carried out by a Hello! reporter at the end of his tether. There was Terry

Wogan, Cilla Black, David Frost, Einstein, Mao, Olivier, Sophia Loren, JR, Liza Minnelli, Roy Hattersley - whose bodies probably provided just enough wax between them to make new models of Dolly Parton and Pavarotti.

This idea of fame being passes on like a baton was echoed in Walk On the Wildside (ITV), a lively attempt to draw a straight line through the history of transsex-uality in rock 'n' roll from Little Richard to Dana International, the Israeli pop singer whose Euro-vision Song Contest victory underlined just how mainstream all these pretty things have become.
"I really think there isn't anything that's shocking any more," said Marc Almond, wistfully

or lynch him. "It's very hard to be subversive now." On this side of the Atlantic it all

remembering those days when Top Of The Pops audiences

weren't sure whether to love him

seemed to start with Lindsay Kemp, the mime artist whom David Bowie acknowledges as an influence. "I always urged him to be extreme," said Kemp, recalling his first glimpse of Bowie in full glam-rock gear. "but not that extreme." Kemp also provided some costume inspiration for Richard O'Brien's The Rocky Horror Show, which used similar corsets to those Kemp had used in a Glasgow Citizens production of a Jean Genet play.

This documentary may have had ideas above its station. but it was perfectly enjoyable as a nostalgic trip: Boy George, Holly Johnson, Roxy Music, The Sweet, Freddie Mercury, Marc Bolan, Steve Strange, The Kinks singing Lola — a good excuse to replay some songs that you might not have heard in a while.

Sophie Grigson's Herbs (BBC2) is a new series with a pro-

actually willing to share her enthusiasm for herbs (this week it was oregano, marjoram, basil and coriander) and her ideas for what to do with "these little kitchen gods".

Grigson has found a dever peg for a cookery series, since herbs have swollen into a £40 million-ayear industry in Britain. I'm with Sophie when it comes to chucking basil and coriander into dishes by the handful, which is why it's such a mystery that supermarkets sell coriander in those small, pricey packs which hold four slender sprigs, as if you might be planning

to smoke them in a roll-up. Grigson's guest chef was Antony Worrall Thompson, the chef who specialises in never turning down an opportunity to appear on telly. Every TV cook now has a guest cook dropping by. And when the guest cook gets a series, they reciprocate by returning the invi-tation. It's like TV dinner parties.

BBC1

6.00em Business Breakfast (50166) 7.00 BBC Breakdast News (T) (12673) 9.00 Kilroy (T) (8810321)

9.45 The Vanessa Show (T) (4226296) 10.55 News; Regional News (T) (6381760) 11.00 Change That (6308437)

11.25 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (T) (6378296) 11.55 News; Regional News (T) (1551383) 12.00pm Cell My Bluff (67234) 12.30 Wipeout (2267465)

12.55 The Weather Show (1) (48024147) 1.00 One O'Clock News (1) (15760) 1.30 Regional News (47746215)

1.40 Neighbours (T) (25625470) 2.05 Ironside (r) (3772031). 2.55 Body Spies (5026321) 3.25 Children's BBC: Playdays (6949050)

3.45 All New Popeye (2833234) 3.55 Pocket Dragon Adventures (2839418) 4.05 Anthony Art (6489760) 4.20 Home Farm Twins (6477925) 4.35 Short Change (5711215) 5.00 Newsround (2251383) 5.10 Grange Hill (6803925) 33 Rewind (T) (187789)

5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (599234) 6.00 Stx O'Clock News; Weather (1) (925) 6.30 Regional News Magazine (505) 7.00 Watchdog with Anne Robinson (1) (9942)

7.30 EastEnders (T) (789)

Harbour Lights Nick Beny stars as a harbour master in this major new drama series (1) (882654) 8.50 Points of View (1) (740147) 9.00 Nine O'Clock News; Regional News;



Kay Mellor's acclaimed drama returns (9.30pm)

9.30 Playing the Field New series of the football drame: Geraldine goes into premature labour (T)

10.20 They Think it's All Over Again (r) (T) (B43234) 10.50 Question Time With Tony Banks (T) (304673)

11.50 The Parallax View (1974) Thriller, starring Warren Beetty as a Journalist investigating a plot to eliminate the witnesses to a political assessination. Directed by Alan J. Pakula (T) (429906) 1.30am Weather (8456819)

1.35 BBC News 24 (43002187)

6.30pm-7.00 Wales Today (f) (505) 10.20 pamon Rochefort Tonight (4/6) (843234) 10.50 Eurovisions (524499) 11.20 They Think It's All Over Again (f) (f) (792857) 11.50 Question Time (1)(424296) 12.50am FILM: The Parallax View (f) (344093) 2.30 News Headlines (f) (4119635) 2.35-6.00 BBC News 24 (78738155)

BBC2

7.00am Children's BBC Breakfast Shows Open a Door (3077470) 7.05 Telestribbies (6995012) 7.30 Snorks (3378465) 7.50 Blue Peter (6767499) 8.20 Taz-Mania (7866760) 8.40 Polka Dot Shorks (3852708) 8.50 Fiddley Foodle Bird (3841992) 9.00 Daytime on Two (6388675) 9.00 Job Bank (6388875) 9.10 Belief File (4672505) 9.30 Watch (1757050) 9.45 Come Outside (1752505) 10.00 Children's BBC: Telenubbies 10.00 Children's BBC: Telatubbies (87499) 10.30 Dayline On Two: Storytime (2759499) 10.45 Teaching Today (698673) 11.15 Zig Zag (4014550) 11.35. Pathways of Belief (8451050) 11.50 Job Bank (6058645) 12.00pm Job Bank (7970050) 12.10 English File (9415128) 12.30 Working Lunch (83760).

1.00 Children's BBC: Flodiey Foodle Bird 1.10 The Travel Hour (r) (9761499) 2.10 Sporting Greats (61817708)

2.40 News; Regional News (T) (3179586) 2.45 Match of Their Day (1) (2626128) 3.25 News; Regional News (I) (4557186) 3.30 Awash with Colour (383) 4.00 Kaye (6020321)

4.25 Ready, Steady, Cook (T) (6030708) 4.55 Esther (1) (3374789) 5.30 Today's the Day (T) (654) 6.00 Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (r) (1) (495296)

6.45 Quantum Leap (r) (T) (806673) 7.30 First Sight Report on racist attitudes in



Fred Dibnah indulges in his passion for history (8pm)

Age New series. Television's favourite steeplejack begins a tour of the country's most treasured sites of industrial history(1) (7692).

8.30 Wheeler Dealars New series, Teams of budding Arthur Daleys captained by Mariene Guest and Austin Richards vie to make the biggest profit from a £1,000 stake in just five days, beginning with ventures in the worlds of modern art and antiques. Presented by Adrian Chiles (1)

9.00 Red Dwarf New series of the long-running sci-fi comedy (T) (4963) 9.30 Horizon The race to perfect the artificial heart, the ideal solution to the current shortage of heart donors, a problem which may finally have been solved after 30 years of development (T) (282692)

10.20 Tales of Tools New Series (T) (355789) 10.30 Newsnight (T) (291760)

11.13 Video Nation Shorts (I) (136437) 11.15 Late Review (401875)

12.00am The Phil Silvers Show (r) (6835451) 12.25 Skiing Forecast (5402345) 12.30 BBC Learning Zone

5.30em ITN Morning News (63128) 6.00 GMTV (9062942) 9.25 Trisha (I) (5287147) 1.00 Echo Point (17128) 10.30 This Morning (T) (11384654) 12.15pm HTV News and Weather (T)

(7953383) 12.30 ITN Lunchtime News; Weather (T) 1.00 Shortland Street Rebecca

rejection (17128) 1.30 Home and Away Are the Nash family dead? (1) (88857)

2.00 The Jerry Springer Show Outrageous anything-goes talk show, tackling subjects bizarre even by American standards (T) (5605586) 2.45 Dale's Supermarket Sweep (951654)

3.15 ITN News Headlines (T) (6357168) 3.20 HTV News (T) (3002091) 3.25 CITV: Cartoon Time (6941418) 3.45 The Sylvester and Tweety Mysteries (3977741) 4.00 Lavender Castle (6482957) 4.15 Hey Arnold! (3152499) 4.40 Children's Ward (2042418)

5.10 A Country Practice Ian impr Darcy (9043215) 5.36 HTV Crimestoppers (171128) 5.40 ITN Early Evening News; Weather (1)

6.00 Home and Away Are the Nash family dead? (f) (1) (439654) 6.25 HTV Weather (701418)

6.30 The West Tonight (I) (673) 7.00 Emmerdate Lyn sets Marion his final task-(T) (5470)

7.30 We Can Work it Out (857) 8.00 The Bill Meadows rubs his hands in glee when an opportunity arises to put a notorious drug dealer behind bars — but the smile is wiped off his face by the discovery of £5,000 stashed under a desk in his own department (T) (6437)



No one has been convicted of the Stephen Lawrence murder (9pm)

9.00 The Murder of Stepher Lawrence Poignan dramatisation of Doreen and Neville Lawrence's struggle to bring their 18-year-old son's killers to justice (1)

10.00 News at Ten; Weather (T) (53031) 10.30 HTV News and Weather (T) (358437) 10.40 The Murder of Stephen Lawrence Concluded (T) (309128)

11.40 Thursday Night Live (452079) 12.40am The Jerry Springer Show (T) (3626364)

1.25 T in the Park (8256890) 2.25 Box Office America (1988635) 2.50 Cybernet (1184068) 3.20 Murder, She Wrote (3818242) 4.10 Potty About Pets (39286797) 4.35 Coach (35245154).

5.00 ITV Nightscreen (12635)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except. 12.20-12.30pm Central News (8352215)

1.30 The Jerry Springer Show (1456876) 2.15-2.45 Home and Away (952383) 3-20-3.25 Central News (3002091) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (9043215)

6.25-6.55 Central News (447673) 6.55-7.00 Lifeline (563470) 10.30-10.40 Central News (358437)

12.50am The Jerry Springer Show (2632635) 1.30 Highlander (2380513) 2.25 Pop Down the Pub (1988635)

2.50 Judge Judy (3838906) 3.10 Cybernet (80061600) 3.35 Potty About Pets (40061703)

4.05 Central Jobfinder '99 (6950242)

5.20-5.30 Asian Eye (7261616)

As HTV West except: 12.15-12.27pm

12-27-12:30 Illuminations (8360234) 1.00 Emmerdale (17128)

1.30 The Jerry Springer Show (1456876) 2.15-2.45 Home and Away (952383) 3.20-3.25 Westcountry News (3002091) 5.08 Birthday People (5138741)

5.10-5.40 Home and Away (9043215) 6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (95505) 10.30-10.40 Westcountry News (358437)

As HTV West except: 12.15pm-12.30 Meridian News (7953383) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away

(1) (9043215) 6.00 Meridian Tonight (1) (321) 6.30-7.00 Getaways (7/10) (673) 10.30-10.40 Meridian News (1) (358437) 5.00am-5.30

As HTV West except: 12.19pm Anglia Air Watch (8364050) 12.20-12.30 Anglia News and Weather (8352215) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (1) (9043215) 5.59 Anglia Weather (1) (184692) 6.00 Anglia News (1) (321) 6.30-7.00 About Anglia (673) 10.29 Anglia Air Watch (628147) 10.30-10.40 Anglia News and

Starts: 5.55am Sesame Street (88448073) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (34951708) 9.00 The Bigger Breakfast; Saved by the Bell (29363166) 9.30 Sam and Max (10033499) 9.55 Earle, Indiana: The Other Dimension (T) (10041418) 10.25 Boy Meets World (7) (570;8586) 10.50 Moesha (r) (7) (50784418) (3/0538) 10.50 incosts (1) (1) (3/05446) 11.20 Madison (53042876) 11.45 The Bigger Breakfast (59052437) 12.00pm Bewitched (1) (29343302) 12.30 Sesame Street (1) (38998789) 1.00 Planed Plant (1) (34954895) 1.30 The Three Stooges (T) (27578673) 1.50 FILM: The Feminine Touch (T) (91204483) 3.30 Collectors' Lot (T) (81886673) 4.00 Fiftsen-to-One (T) (81805708) 4.30 Ricki Lake (T) (81894692) 5.00 Planed Plant (64375383) 5.30 Countdown (T) (81885944) 6 .00 Newyddion 6 (T) (54197166) 6.10 Heno (i) (16063673) 7.00 Pobol y Cwm (1) (64395147) 7.30 Newyddion (1) (81895321) 8.00 Staymaker (1) (64304895) 8.30 Pam Fl Duw? (1) (64383302) 9.00 i dot (46616485) 10.00 Father Ted (6/6) (i) (1) (60065012) 10.35 Friends (r) (T) (56492050) 11.05 True Stories (T) (38187789) 12.25am Prey (T) (33165567) 1.20 Fusion (1/6) (55926797) 1.55 Diwedd

CHANNEL 4

5.45am The Pink Panther (9811741) 5.55 Sesame Street (3468147) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (67893) 9.00 The Bigger Breakfast (70708) 9.30 Sam and Max (9212296)

9.55 Eerie, Indiana (1) (9220215) 10.25 Boy Meets World (T) (1048079) 10.50 Moesha (r) (T) (2316895) 11.20 Madison (5264893)

11.45 The Bigger Breakfast (8442302) 12.00pm Sesame Street (T) (50944) 12.30 Bewitched (r) (T) (85128)

1.00 Pet Rescue (T) (17370) 1.30 Driftnet The plight of dolphine (90386147) 1.35 Conduct Unbecoming (1975) An army

cadet is put on that for supposedly assaulting an officer's widow in late Assaults of the control of the contr (38062895)

3.30 Collectors' Lot (T) (609) 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (T) (586) 4.30 Countdown (T) (5705654) 4.55 Ricki Lake (T) (3369857) 5.30 Pet Rescue (T) (550)

6.00 Dishes (T) (963) 6.30 Hollyoaks (T) (215) 7.00 Channel 4 News; Weather (T) (391924) 7.50 Zoom (T) (606944)

8.00 Norland Nannies The trainees reach the end of the course and prepare for the annual garden party. Last in series (6/6) m (2760) 8.30 The Real Albert Goering Insight into

how Albert Goering, the younger brother of Hitler's right-hand man Hermann Goering, used his power and family connections to save victims of Nazism by running rescue operations inside the Third Reich (r) (T) (49505)



Ethnic Albanian women mourn the

death of relatives (9.30pm) 9.30 True Stories Film-maker Dan Reed's documentary capturing the events of 1998 in Kosovo's Drenica Valley, when the Kosovo Liberation Army clashed with Serbian forces in an attempt to reclair territory they believed was rightfully theirs
— a bloody conflict which had its roots in

11.05 Ally McBeal (r) (T) (177741) 12.05am 4 Later (1556190) 1.00 Vids (8318155) 1.35 Late Toon: Endogenesis (8368600) 1.40 NYPD Blue (r) (T) (2475635)

2.35 St Elsewhere (r) (T) (3503161) 3.25 Crackerjack (1938) A gentleman thief and master of disguise tackles a dangerous criminal gang while posing as a butler. Vintage British comedy drama,

starring Tom Walls. Directed by Albert de Courville (T) (7707155) 4.45 To the Island of the Aye-Aye (r)

CHANNEL 5

6.00am 5 News and Sport (6301654) 7.00 WideWorld Part five. How chemistry has been of use to business and politics (r) (7) (6776895)

7.30 Milkshake! (4044609) 7.35 Wimzie's House (r); 5 News Update

(3921321) 8.00 Havakazoo (r) (4704895)

8.30 Dappledown Farm (r); 5 News Update (4703166)

9.00 Animal House (r) (T) (1496302) 9.25 Russell Grant's Postcards (7121673) 9.30 The Oprah Winfrey Show (6874857) 10.20 Sunset Beach Amy yows to reclaim the

emerald (T) (1874050) 11.10 Leeza (4283673) 12.00pm 5 News at Noon (T) (4774654)

12.30 Family Affairs Claire makes a bid for freedom (r) (T); 5 News Update (9726128) 1.00 The Bold and the Beautiful Jessica recalls the assault (T) (6775166)

1.30 The Roseanne Show (9725499) 2.00 100 Per Cent Gold (5971128) 2.30 Good Afternoon An hour of lessure iffestyle and documentary, featuring real-file soap Liverpool Mums, Rob Butter's word game Cryptogram and

Selling the Family Silver, 5 News Update (1524708) 3.30 The Rise and Fall of Legs Diamond (1960) Gangster biopic chronicting the bloodthirsty exploits of a New York hoodlum (Ray Danton) as he attempts to maintain control of his territory. Directed by Budd Boetticher: 5 News Update

(9501470) 5.20 Sunset Beach Shown earlier (r) (T): 5 News Update (3293091)

6.00 100 Per Cent (6121673) 6.30 Family Affairs The race is on to find Claire (T) (6112925) 7.00 5 News; Weather Round-up of the day's

stories (T) (5975944) 7.30 Champions of Nature Efforts to save the Pacific grey whale from extraction (T): 5 News Update (6141437) 8.00 The Pepsi Chart Dr Fox talks to nominees at the Brit Awards, including

Another Level, Cleopatra, Billie and Sheryl Crow (5984692) 8.30 Family Confidential A mother's fraught relationship with her son following his decision to live as a woman for two years before undergoing a sex change,

marriage and other family members (r): 5 News Update (5970499) 9.00 Sleep, Baby, Sleep (TVM 1995) A woman with Attention Deficit Disorder is shocked to find herself the chief suspect in a police investigation into her child's disappearance — and embarks on her own quest to find the truth. Taut thriller, starring Tracey Gold, Kyle Chandler and Thomas Calabro. Directed by Armand Mentralessis (T).

Mastrolanni (T); 5 News Update 10.50 Bring Me the Head of Light Entertainment (6975895) 11.20 The Jack Docherty Show (7754296) 12.00am Live and Dangerous (50906161) 4.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H (9307267)

5.30 100 Per Cent (r) (9693884)

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SKY ONE

7.00am Count Dudade (56031) 7.30 Christers (19302) 3.30 Grimm (88578) 9.00 Earthwarm Jen (89470) 9.30 Flash Gordon (30892) 10.00 Microtes and Other Wonders (64050) 11.00 Guithy (51589) 12.00pm (64050) 11.00 Guithy (51589) 12.00pm (65032) 1.30 Jeopardy (40079) 2.00 Saly Jessy Raphael (20125) 1.00 Med About You (55302) 1.30 Jeopardy (40079) 2.00 Saly Jessy Raphael (20125) 3.00 Jenny Jones (35673) 4.00 Guithyl (54708) 5.00 Star Treic Voyager (1673) 8.00 America's Dumbed Criminals (4957) 6.30 Dream Team (8437) 7.00 The Simpsons (2322) 7.30 The Simpsons (7321) 9.00 America's Dumbed Criminals (1050) 8.39 Wond's Werdest TV (7857) 9.00 Friends (43692) 9.30 El (6388) 11.00 Dream Team (63437) 11.30 Star 11.00 Dream Team (63437) 11.30 Star 11.00 Dream Team (55437) 11.30 Star 11.3 795001) 10.30 Veronica's Closet (50303) F11.00 Dream Team (55437) 11.30 Star-Trak: Voyager (34234) 12.30sm The Commish (75093) 1.30 Long Play (7355425)

SKY BOX OFFICE Sky's pay-per-view movie channels. To view any film telephone 0890 800688 SKY BOX OFFICE 1 (Transponder 51) Boogle Nights (1997) SKY BOX OFFICE 2 (Transponder 60) in and Out (1997) SKY BOX OFFICE 3 (Transponder 59)

Fairytele: A Titue Story (1997) SKY BOX OFFICE 4 (Transponder 58) Picture Perfect (1997) 6.00pm Decau Uzata (1974) (8724296) 8.30 Stand By Me (1985) (8227944) 10.00 The Dead Zone (1983) (5504789) 11.50

ome usen 2016 (1965) (504/76) 17:30 Deard of Night (1945) (2558147) 1.30am Falining Stones. (1950) (544242) 3.00 Plemet is Fou (1968) (9437432) 4.50 The Firstner's Bell (1967) (2905083) ASKY PREMIER __ 8.00am Rhizestone (1984) (64079) 8.00 auther Releastate (1984) [04079] 200 Tom and Huck (1985) (35050) 10.00 Who Finned Roper Rabbil (1985) (43160) 12.00pm: The Directors: Hesteri Ross (13825) 1.00 Ferranes Fatales: Unan (1345) 1.00 Ferrares Passes: Marie (1984) (17147) 4.00 Tem and Muck (1985) (20047657) 5.45 Wise Premed Roger Rubbit (1986) (67784673) 8.00 Hollywood Rubbit (1986) (67784673)

SKY MOVIEMAX

5.40am The Christmas List (1997) (15584925) 7.15 Destroy All Monsters (1968) (10947494) 9.00 Outside Chance of Mandadillers (Bick (1988) (24944) 11.00 Or Magnatument of the Apes (TVM 1974) (59012) 1,00pm Destroy All Moneters (1986) (2976) 3.00 Cutalde Change of Magnatillan Glick (1986) (98050) 5.00 Back to the Planet of the (98150) 5.00 stack to the Planet of the Apes (1748 1974) [15985] 7.06 Reckless Nights (1987) (61983) 9.00 Random Encounter (1997) (60957) 11.00 Twist of Pata (1998) (539983) 12.40m Memiliane (1990) (72797) 2.20 Schoons Else's America (1995) (376529) 3.55 Reviews (1998) 539887) Ese's America (1995) (376529) 3.55 Proteus (1996) (526667) SKY CINEMA

4.00pm Shurtock Helmes and the spider Women (1944) (9804079) 6.00 Hollywood Hall Of Fame: Natalie Wood (7449673) 9.00 Absendon Ship (1967) (182687) 8.00 The Phantom of the Opers (1945) (1825302) 10.00 The Big Red One (1980) (989887) 11.25 The Notorious Landingly (1962) (80726073) 2.00em The Magus (1968) (3540722) 4.00 The Lenton Drop Rid (1951) (5631806)

TNT 9.00pm Raintree Country (1958) (7206383) 1.15mm Bridge to the Sun (1961) (11872548) 2.30 The Florit (1968) (71791722)

SKY SPORTS 1 7,00cm Sports Carter 7.15 World Wresting Federation: Shotpun 8.15 You're On Sky Sports! 9.00 Recorp News 9.30 Aerobics Or Style 10.00 Unbelevable Sports 10.30 Live European Tour Golf: Carter Masters 1.30pan Footbell Special 3.00 Unbellevable Sports 3,30 Worldmann Cuo Footbell 5.00 1.30pm Footbell Speciel 3.00 Unbellerable Sporis 3.30 Worthington Cup Footbell 5.00 World Wiresting Federation: Superations 6.00 Sports Centre 8.30 Footbell League Review 7.00 European Tour Got: Callar Mesters 8.30 Live Sports Footbell 10.30 Sports Centre 10.45 You've On Sky Sports 11.30 Footbell League Review 12.00em Sports Centre 12.15 You've On Sky Sports 1.00 Spenish Footbell 2.30 Trans World Sport 3.30 Sports Centre 3.45 Cicae

SKY SPORTS 2 7.00am Aerubios Oz Style 7.30 Sporte Centre 7.45 Pacing News 8.15 Unbelleveble Sports 8.45 Sports Centre 9.00 Feb TV 10.00 Football Special 11.30 Worthington Cup Football 1.00pm Sports 5.00 Footbal League Review 5.30 What A Weekend 8.00 Trans World Sport 7.90 Live Snooker: Scotish Open 10.00 US Golf

> SKY SPORTS 3 12.00pm World Wrestling Federation Superstans 1.00 Fish TV 2.00 Trans World Supersters 1,000 Fight Nr 2,000 trans would Sport 3,000 Futbol Mundel 3,300 Watersports World 4,300 Sports Unlimited 5,300 Survival of the Fitted 6,000 Inside the PGA Tour 6,30 Fishing: Tight Lines 7,300 Live loe Hockey 16,000 Bobby Charlson's Football Scrapbook 11,300 Cigse

EUROSPORT 7.30em US Gof 8.30 Footbal 10.30 Ski-Jumping 11.30 Start Your Enginea 12.30em Cer on tea 1.00 Judo 2.00 Leo Ternia 4.00 Olympio Magazini 4.30 Women's Footbal 5.30 Live Women's Tennis 7:00 Recing Line 8:00 Booking 8:00 Suring 10:00 Football 11:00 Recing Line 12:00am Clympic Megazine 12:30 Close UK GOLD

7.00am Crossroads 7.36 Neighbours 7.55
EastEnders 8.30 The Bill 9.00 The Bill 9.30
When the Boel Comes in 10.30 Rhode
11.00 Deles 11.55 Neighbours 12.25pm
EastEnders 1.00 Julei Brillo 2.00 Deles
2.55 The Bill 3.25 The Bill 3.55 EastEnders
4.30 Rhoda 5.80 Alf Creatures Greel and
Smell 6.00 Dynasty 7.00 20min 4 Children
7.40 Ded's Army 8.20 The Billiass Empire
9.00 The Young Ones 9.40 Bottom 10.20
Common as Muck 11.30 The Bill 12.00am
The Bill 12.25 Blackadder 8 1.05 Franch
and Seunders 1.40 Spender 3.40 Shopping
with Screenshop

6.00am: Within These Walls 7.00 Bowler 7.30 Doctor at Large 8.00 Beadle's About 8.30 The Fosters 8.00 Classic Coronabon-Sires: 9.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.00 Upstans Downstalrs 11.00 Havel Five-O 12.00pm Classic Coronalon Street 12.30

GRANADA PLUS

Framed Roger Rabbit (Sky Premier, 10am, 5.45pm). Emmerdale Farm 1.00 Nearest and Dearest 1.30 Pg in the Middle 2.00 Upsters Downstairs 3.00 The Love Boat 4.00 The Saint 5.00 Hawaii Five-0 6.00 Emmerdale Farm 6.30 Classic Coronation Street 7.00 Misson: Impossible 8.00 The Love Boat 9.00 Classic Coronation Street 9.30 The Cornections 110.00 Jokers Wild 10.30 Hogan's Hences 11.00 Graneda Men

DIŞNEY CHANNEL 6.00em Bear6.30 PB and J Otter 7.00 101 6.00em Bear6.30 PB and J Otter 7.00 101 Datmeters 8.00 Hercules 9.00 Ari Attack 9.30 Doug 10.00 Recess 10.15 Pepper Am 10.30 Smart Guy 11.00 Crash Zone 11.30 Boy Meets World 12.00pm Student Bodies 12.30 Dinosaum 1.00 Amazing Anmals 1.30 Bear2.00 Winne the Poot 2.15 PB and J Otter 2.30 Queck Pack 3.00 The Latte Mermeid 3.30 Ari Attack 4.00 101 Dalmaters 4.30 Hercules 5.00 Recess 5.15 Section Am 5.30 Smart Guy 8.00 Teach Datireten's 4.30 Percuses our recess s.7.
Pepper Ann. 5.30 Smen Guy 8.00 Teen
Angel 8.30 Boy Meets World 7.00 FILMs
Allies in Wooderland (1988) 8.15
Droseurs 9.00 Honey I Shunk the
Koles A6 Home Improvement 10.15 Mega
Mone Magic 10.30 The Wonder Years
11.00 Dr Cuinn

Bob Hoskins stares in wonderment at the animated sizen in Who FOX KIDS NETWORK

6.00em Dodo 6.05 Masked Rider 6.30 8.00mm Dodo 6.05 Masked Rider 6.30 Beetleborgs Metalix 6.55 Power Rangers Turbo 7.45 Bureau of Alen Detectors 8.10 Montal Korribal 8.30 Montal 9.00 Gooseburgs 9.25 Earle, Indiana 9.50 Home to Rent 10.00 Sam and Max 10.25 Med Jack the Pirate 10.60 The Secral Fiesd the Spy Dogs 11.00 Life with Loui 11.25 C Bear and Jamal 11.50 Öggy and the Cookingsies 1.55pm. This trotedble Must 2.45 Fastistics Four 3.10 2.20 Iron Man 2.45 Fantastic Four 3.10 2.20 You Man 2.45 Familiant Four 3.10
Y-Men 3.30 The Big Half-Term Event 3.35
Mortal Kombat 4.00 Spiderman 4.25
Morga 4.30 Home to Rent 5.00
Goosebumps 5.25 Eere, Indiana 5.55
Oorkey Kong Country 8.25 Sam and Max 6.50 Eek/Stravaganza

6.00em Rocko's Modern Life 6.30 Rocko's Modern Life 7.00 Angry Beavers 7.30 Angry Beavers 8.00 Califog 8.30 Califog 9.00 Rugrats 9.30 Rugrats 10.00 The Wild Thomberrys 10.30 The Wild Thomberrys 11.00 Kenan and Kel 11.30 Kenan and Kel

12.00pm Moesha 12.30 Moesha 1.00 The of Alen Strange 1.30 The Journey of Alen Strange 2.00 Doug 2.00 Doug 3.00 Rugrats 3.30 Rugrats 4.00 Sabrina 5.00 Seder Seder

TROUBLE 7.00am USA High 7.30 City Guys 8.00 Saved by the Bell 8.30 Hang Time 9.00 Tempesti 9.50 On The Make 10.00 Saved by the Bell 10.30 Hollyoaks 11.00 Savest Valley High 11.30 Fleady or Not 12.00pm The Fresh Prince 12.30 In the House 1.00 Savest 1.30 Tempesti 2.30 Hollyoaks 3.00 Ready Or Not 3.30 City Guys 4.00 The Fresh Prince 4.30 in the House 5.00 Saved by the Bell 5.30 Savest Valley High 8.00 USA High 6.30 Sugar's Real Lie Stores 6.45 Bangs 7.00 Savest 7.30 Hang Time 8.50 On the Make

BRAYO 8.00pm The A-Taam 9.00 LAP.D 9.30 Cops 18.00 Edireme Championship Wessing 18.30 Eroic Confessions 11.00 FULIE Red Heat (1988) 1.00am Sex Bytes 1.35 Eroic Senss 2.06 Extrems

Den 8.30 Newsharin 8.00 Drop the Dead Donkey 9.30 Whose Line Is 1 Anyway? 10.00 Frasier 10.30 Cheers 11.00 Seinfeld 11.30 The Larry Sanders Show 12.00 am David Lettermen 1.00 Taxl 1.30 The Critic 2.00 Dr Katz 2.30 Tibs and Fibs 3.00 Notherbard 3.70 Abbut and Chateling

THE SCHTI CHANNEL

PARAMOUNT COMEDY

7.00em Jenny 7.30 Grace Under Fire 8.00

SATELLITE: 8pm-MIDNIGHT ONLY 7.30am Bloomberg information Television 8.00 Sighings 9.00 Buck Rogers in the 25th Century 10.00 Curartum Leap 11.00 Dark Shadows 11.30 The Ray Bradbury Theurie 12.00pm The Twilight Zone 12.30 The Twilight Zone 12.00 The Twilight Zone 1.00 Tates of the Unexpected 2.00 Amazing Stories 2.30 Buck Rogers in the 25th Century 4.00 The Incredible Hulk 6.00 Sighings 6.00 Time Trax 7.00 Curartum Leap 8.00 Mercy Point 9.00 Bebylon 5 10.00 FB.M: Sweamp Thing (1982) 11.45 Sci-Focus Special 12.00am (1982) 11.45 Sc-Focus Special 12.00am

New Altred Hitchcock 12.30 The Ray Bradkury Theatre 1.00 Fillalit And The Walts Came Tumbling Down (1984) 2.30 Tales of the Unaspected 3.00 The Twitight Zone 3.30 Dark Shadows

HOME & LEISURE 6.00em Today's Gournet 6.30 Graham Kerr 7.00 Room Service 7.30 The Painted House 8.00 Wedding Story 8.30 A Baby Story 9.00 Smply Parinting 9.25 The Home and Leisure House 9.30 Ported History with Articity Hern 10.00 Real Cardens 10.30 Cookabout with Greg and Max 11.00 The Diceman 11.30 Fishing Australia 12.00pm Out House Down Horier 19.30 Artilleries Our House Down Under 12.30 Antiques Trail 1.00 Our House 1.30 Hometime 2.00

DISCOVERY A.00gm Rex Hunt Fishing Adventures 4.30 Walker's World 8.00 Wheel, Nuts 5.30 Treesure Hunters 6.00 Annusl Doctor 6.30 Secrets of the Deep 7.30 The Elegant Solution 8.00 Discover Megazine 9.00 Fighting the G-Force 10.00 Super Structures 11.00 Forensic Derectives 12.00am Science Frontiers 1.00 Treasure Hunters 1.30 Wheel Nuis **ANIMAL PLANET**

12.00pm Horse Tales 12.30 Going Wid 1.00 Nature Watch with Julien Petitler 1.30 Deadly Australians 2.00 Wildlife ER 2.30 Human/Nature 3.30 Harry's Practice 4.00 Jack Hanna's Zoo Life **4.30** Animal Doctor 5.00 Pet Rescue 5.30 Deadly Australians 6.00 The New Adventures of Black Beauty 6.30 Lasse 7.00 Rediscovery of the World 8.00 Animal Doctor 8.30 The Blue Beyond 9.30 Emergency Vets 10.00 Deady Australians 10.30 The Big Animal Show 11.00 Wild Rescues 11.30 Emergency Vets

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC 7.00pm Jasper's Gants 7.30 Deep Fight 8.00 The Wating Game 8.30 Lord of the Eagles 9.00 Extreme Earth Violent Volcano 10.00 On the Edge: Arctic Journey 11.00 Dwng with the Great Whates 12.00em Killer Whates of the Fjord 12.30 Mystery of the Whate Lagoon HISTORY

4.00pm The Carl War: Gehysburg 5.00 Weapons at War: Bormbs, Rockets and

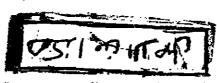
CARLTON FOOD

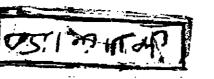
9.00am Food Network Daily 9.30 Chel on a Shoesting 10.00 Who's Cooking Diriner? 10.30 Alive and Cooking 11.00 What's Cooking? 11.30 Cookins kitcher College 12.00pm Food Network Daily 12.30 Food LIVING 6.00em Tiny and Crew 8.20 Johnson and Friends 8.30 Greedysaurus and the Gang 6.40 Tiny Tales 6.45 Philibert the Frog 6.50 Polka Dot Shorts 7.00 Practical Parenting

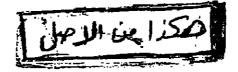
Polia Dot Shorts 7.00 Practical Parenting 7.05 Prolessor Bubble 7.30 Cartiou 7.35 Bug Alen 7.35 Practical Parenting 8.00 Berney and Filends 8.25 Bebeloos 8.30 Cailou 8.35 Tiny and Crew 8.50 Practical Parenting 9.00 Carrit Cook, Won'l Cook, 9.30 The Rossanne Show 10.00 The Jerry Springer Show 10.50 Maury Povich 11.40 Brookside 12.10pm Animal Rescue 12.40 Pescue 911 1.10 Special Babbles 1.40 Beyond Belief: Fact or Fiction 2.10 Law 3.10 Living Room 4.00 Michael Cole 4.50 2.10 Living Room 4.00 Michael Cole 4.50 Rolanda 5.40 Ready, Steady, Cook 6.15 The Jerry Springer Show 7.05 Rescue 911 7.35 Animal Rescue 8.10 Maury Powich 9.00 Nothing Lasts Forever 11.00 Sex Life

ZEE TV

5.00am Char Reasta 5.30 Music Time 6.00 Hero Kal Ael Au 6.30 Awaaz Nayee Andaz Wohi 7.00 Fath: Sal Baba 7.30 News 8.00 Karobari Duniya 6.30 Salaab 9.00 Zanjoeren 6.30 Zee Health Show 10.00 La yeeren Butu Zee Health Show 10.00 Hawsan 11.00 Pot Luck 11.30 Parampara 12.00pm FILM: Tamil Movie: Ketru Indru Nalai 3.00 Zee Bangia 3.30 Public Demand 4.00 Akber Birbel 4.30 Fairdeal Anteksheri 4.00 Akber Bitolal 4.30 Faktdeal Antakshari 5.30 Darsar 6.00 Pop Time 6.30 Hip Hip Hurray 7.00 Gudqudee 7.30 Cinemegic 8.00 News 8.30 Chehal Aur Nafara 9.00 Hashaten 9.30 Blurt 2 10.30 Anhones 11.00 Majuhe Cheand Chahya 11.30 Abdut You 12.00am News 12.30 Zee Busness Show 1.00 Zee Bangle 1.30 Rashari 2.00 Fillatt Hindl Moviet Azand









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THURSDAY FEBRUARY 18 1999

FA must resume search after No 1 choice accepts coach's role on temporary basis

Keegan leaves England in limbo

THE Football Association opened up the possibility of England being run by four coaches in as many months Kevin Keegan in the country's horrest seat, but only until Lancaster Gate may have

been taken over by modernisers, but it appears that it is not above an old-fashioned fudge. No sooner had David Davies announced that the former England captain would, as expected, succeed Glenn Hoddle from this morning, than he was forced to reveal that it would only be for the next four games. So, on the same day that Keegan takes over, the search for the man to replace him in the summer will also

In defence of the FA's international committee - and it may need all the supporters it can get in the turbulent months ahead - it appeared that it had little choice but to make the interim appointment because of Keegan's staunch refusal to break his contract with Fulham, whom he is leading towards promotion from the Nationwide League second division. Having decided that he was

the best man for the job, the lack of alternatives ensured that the FA would be forced to accede to Keegan's demands. He made it clear, from his first discussions with the FA's subcommittee on Monday, that he would not be available fulltime, and he would not be persuaded otherwise over three days of negotiations. In the murky world of football, Keegan has proved a rare man of his word.

The problems of such a compromise are immediately obvious, not the least of which is that Keegan will only be devoting some of his time to a job that has consumed every waking hour - and many of the sleeping ones as well — of more experienced coaches than him. The impossible job

has become the part-time one. Of equal concern is the uncertainty that will inevitably beset the players, who are faced with a critical European championship qualifying match against Poland at Wembley on March 27. Their prepa-

rations for such an important game may be distracted by the inevitable speculation as to who may succeed Keegan in the summer, although the FA emphasised last night that it would attempt to be low-key in its deliberations and would not be issuing weekly

The FA argued last night that it had appointed the best man available, even if only for the interim. "I do not think it is desperation." David Davies. the FA's executive director. said yesterday. 'That is the first time I have heard 'desperation used in the last three



We have got the nation's choice ... he is the best person for the job'

- David Davies yesterday

are anything but. We have got the nation's choice leading England in some crucial games between now and June. We have sought and got the best person for the job.

Sympathy should be exsed for the FA's stance. The length of contract until June will give both parties the chance to see if they are compatible. Keegan can find out if he is as capable of motivating international players as he is club footballers, while the FA will discover if he has the strength of character to fill a post that tests the toughest of

Given Keegan's notorious

volatility, some will argue that it would have been unwise to look beyond the summer anyway. England's position, moreover, may have dramatically changed by then, as may the circumstances of the country's leading managers. If England drop qualifying points against Poland next month and then Sweden and Bulgaria in June, they may have lost all hope of reaching the European championship finals in 2000, in which case it might prove sensible to groom a younger man

for the position. If England have won all those games, Keegan the patriot may feel the duty to stay with England, although he is still adamant that he will remain with Fulham until June 2000. If not, other options may have emerged by then. Per-haps Alex Ferguson will have won the European Cup with Manchester United and decided that he could put aside his Scottish loyalties after all and coach England.

So, much as Keegan's appointment will be seen by many as an abdication of its responsibilities by the FA, its hands were tied by the lack of other options. Roy Hodgson was the only other name considered. Terry Venables was not discussed, while Howard Wilkinson, the FA's technical director, was not regarded as the charismatic leader needed in such troubled times.

However, Wilkinson, who led the England team in the 2-0 defeat against France last week, appears to have won a small battle to spread his influence over all the national teams. He is expected to be involved in some capacity in training sessions at Bisham Abbey, although Keegan has also been given the freedom to bring in two of his own backroom staff. Peter Beardsley and Arthur Cox remain the most likely candidates.

England's trip to Hungary on April 28 will mean that Keegan misses his club's match against Walsall, but he reassured his players — his Fulham ones, that is - that he would still be at the training ground for up to four days a week. The league season will have finished by the time that England face Sweden and Bulgaria and the FA remains con-fident that Keegan can complete the season with two teams at the top of their respec-



Not a union of affection but a marriage of convenience

avid Davies, the executive director of the Football No 1644

2 Nem con (9)

4 Imprudence (8)

Dispose of (4)

7 Proverbially slippery fish (3)

11 Ballet position: flowing de-

3 Spoil (3)

SSWORD

ACROSS I A seabird: armful (anag.) (6) 5 High on drugs; pelted (6) 8 (Medieval) Spanish Muslim

9 Section of word (8) !0 Wrench (joint) (6) 12 A taunt (4) 15 Murder of public figure (13)

14 America personified (5.3) 19 Variegates: house (S) 21 Minor panie

sign (9) 13 Weapon: recoil unpleasantly 16 Unproductive (4) 17 Daily (6)

20 Embrace (3) 21 Part of fish; sounds like a Eu-(wing) (4) 22 Terrifying woman (6) 23 Cope with (6)

SOLUTION TO NO 1643 ACROSS: 7 Trade 8 Peevish 9 Appease 10 Pulse 11 Dock 12 Vineyard 15 Prolific 16 Glum 19 Shore 21 Angular 22 Legally 23 Prado DOWN: | Strand 2 Gazpacho 3 Relax 4 Perplex 5 Girl

6 Thread 8 Preliminary 13 All clear 14 Firefly 15 Pestle 17 Maroon 18 Agape 20 Orgy

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not be flattered by the comparison, but he wore the slightly sheepish air of a love cheat on The Jerry Springer Show when he appeared live on television last night to unburden himself to the nation about his guilty secret. What we were expecting to hear, what we wanted to hear, was that the agony was hiding of heads in hands that

over, that the shame and the followed Glenn Hoddle's attempts to hang on to his job a formight ago were behind us, that we could whole-beartedly behind a new man. What we got

instead was the warning that the search was not over with the appointment of Kevin Keegan. Actually, it was just beginning. That was the moment

when the shock started to hit home, the moment when the girlfriend stops smiling inanely at Jerry and rushes snarling at her betrayer. Not only had the FA failed to persuade Keegan to forsake a Nationwide League second division club for his country for six months or 18 months, but Keegan had insisted point-blank, utterly and incontrovertibly, that he would not stay on as national coach beyond June. Words such as

"desperation" and "limbo" floated around Lancaster Gate. So. suddenly, the man that most of the country believes is the best man for the job - apart from Terry Venables — appears to be treating that job as some sort of trifle, some cast-off that he

OLIVER HOLT partner for a night out but only so long as he makes it he is doing it under sufferance. What we

had wanted from Keegan. above all. was his passion. unfettered watery-eyed that he brings to everything he touches.

But this is not Passion does not have a four-match limit, patriotism is not measured in snatched four-day stints at Bisham

Abbey. Now, even though the FA suggests that Keegan is the short-term answer, the man to get England out of the hole that Hoddle dug it into it has said that it will begin the search for a "permanent successor" today at the very time, presumably, that it is unveiling Keegan halfway up the Edgware Road.

If there had been the promise, even the hope, that this could be just the start, that if things went well then Keegan would stay on to lead England through the European championships, then it might be different.

That scenario might at least allow the fans to suspend their disbelief and wants to do the iob as much they want him to the FA has

opened a Pandora's Box. How. for instance, Football will it pitch Correspondent its approach to the man i

court today? Will its officers tell him that they did not think he had enough talent to get them through the next four matches but that he might just do for the limp period that will follow if England do not qualify for the 2000 European

feel, for instance, if he gets a call from the FA to his hotel in Sydney today asking him to be Keegan's successor? Whoever gets that call will be in an invidious position, someone to follow the public choice, the anti-climax after what should have been the excitement but never quite was. Stop-gaps and compromises are not always

hopeless interregnums, of

How will Roy Hodgson

The best man for the job has made it clear that he is doing it under sufferance'

could still have a happy ending, but the FA should not have allowed itself to be dictated to to this degree.

If these were Keegan's terms for the job, the FA should have dissociated itself from him after their first conversation, tempting though it was to hitch itself to the bandwagon that would have rolled if he had shown that awaits him.

Now, England and their shell-shocked band of internationals face the surreal prospect of being managed by four different men — Hoddle, Howard Wilkinson, Keegan and the new man - in the space of four months. It sounds more like Atletico Madrid than the England team. Handled rightly, the

part-time arrangement might have worked. Given Keegan's dynamism and drive, it might still work, but now it will be against all odds. It has certainly started on the wrong foot, recking of fudge and compromise and a man who has successfully held a supine

FA to ransom. Keegan, we are told, will not take charge of the under-21 side, that he has not succeeded in banning Abbey, he has not been invested with any illusion of permanence.

The nation will still do its best to get behind him and he will try to carry them with him, but this is not a union of love and affection it is a marriage of convenience that is hardly being given a chance to

